

MULTIPACK SOLUTION

Continued from front page

polypropylene adhesive tape backed with recycled board supplied by Smurfit Precision Labelling. Also supplied are small, clear, self adhesive patches, which keep the bottles held steady.

As well as offering maximum pack stability, the six colour flexo printed stretch sleeve offers a significant print area for maximum shelf impact. The impact of the

sleeve on a 3 x 2 litre bottle pack is much greater than that created by labels on three separate containers, says Smurfit (Bolton Street, Radcliffe, Manchester M26 0SR - tel: 061-724 5403, fax: 061-724 6416). Handles can also be printed for further promotional options.

High shelf impact

Smurfit believes that the combination of high shelf impact, the convenient carry handle and the favourable ecological considerations will prove suc-

cessful in the UK. As well as the initial shelf impact, the sleeve also ensures that the sales message is always oriented towards the consumer. On the carry handle, Smurfit cites ease of handling for both the retailer and consumer as benefits offered.

In terms of environmental issues, the multipack weighs only a few grammes, while at the same time offering the chance for further material savings by reducing the size of the primary product label.

The automatic in-line applying machinery can run at speeds of up to 90 a minute on a 3 x 2 litre bottle format and 65 a minute on 2 x 2 litre versions. Speed varies depending on the size of container and format of the cluster, but the maximum capacity on the standard machines is 120 a minute. Twin lane versions can also be supplied.

Equipment is designed and built in modular form with various configurations available. In essence, the main com-

ponents are the sleeve and handle module. The sleeve module provides product grouping and sleeve application, while the handle module is key in its application.

"Transparent tape attached to a strip"

The transparent, self adhesive tape that comprises the handle is attached to a neutralising

strip on the underside, which there are various optional options other than that. According to Dunn Systems, efficiencies can be improved by configuring the lay out with optional free standing bar feeder, including an automatic splicing device for tape and long range board store.

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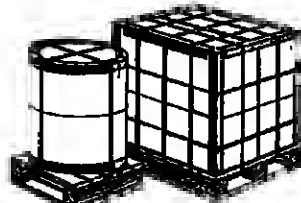
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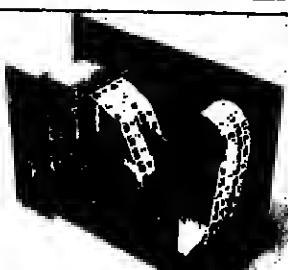
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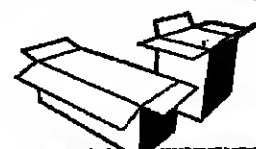
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TINY INKJET

Continued from front page

being used, Pinpoint can improve the quality of print, says Domino, giving what the company calls "near letter quality" resolution. An output of 2400 characters a second can be achieved assuming speeds of 369m a minute on characters 2.5mm wide.

Activated by a single key-stroke, start up and shut down are fully automatic. The systems incorporating Pinpoint have an integral control panel with a liquid crystal display and large keys.

Domino now works from a manageable core range while offering a lot of functionality, says the company (Bar Hill, Cambridge CB3 8TU - tel: 0954 781888, fax: 782713).

Acquisition of laser coding technology from DEI (Directed Energy Inc) in California is being finalised by Domino. In-plant trials are currently underway in the UK with the small, flexible dot matrix system. The technology is said to be especially suitable for the brewing, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals industries. Domino expects that the range of equipment will initially be limited.

For more labelling, coding and marking news, turn to pages 22 to 31.

For further information: K9 144 Call 0839 772268

Redesign gives colour impact to fruit juices

Print quality, with bright colours in a quality finish for shelf impact, is among key features of a Bowater PKL Com-

Designs were originated by the JFW agency, and aimed to maintain the strong colour coding, also used in promo-

suitable for this range, says Vekaria, because at least one product requires shaking by the consumer before drinking. The



The bright, eye-catching design reflects the exotic image of the juices

Rubicon has added guava to its range of passion fruit and mango juice drinks, with a redesign along the lines of the guava carton for the existing products, all in one litre packs.

"We needed to update the mango and passion fruit packs with a bright, eye-catching design which reflected the exotic images of the juices. Bowater's high quality five colour rotogravure press allowed us to do this quickly and cost-effectively," says Vish Vekaria, director of Rubicon.

tional campaigns, across the range. According to Rubicon marketing director Sheila Tarring, the carton has a distinct quality feel to it, and the colours on the redesigned pack are much more vibrant. Combibloc is especially

able with Combibloc give more design options, says Bowater PKL (Blackthorn Way, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne & Wear DF14 6JN - tel: 091-385 3131, fax: 091-385 4713).

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PACKAGING NEWS

SEPTEMBER 1984

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End of line solution for teabag cartons

A compact U-card and stretch-wrap system from Sollas is providing Dutch manufacturer Douwe Egberts with a cost-effective end of line solution for teabag cartons, with particular benefits for retail display.

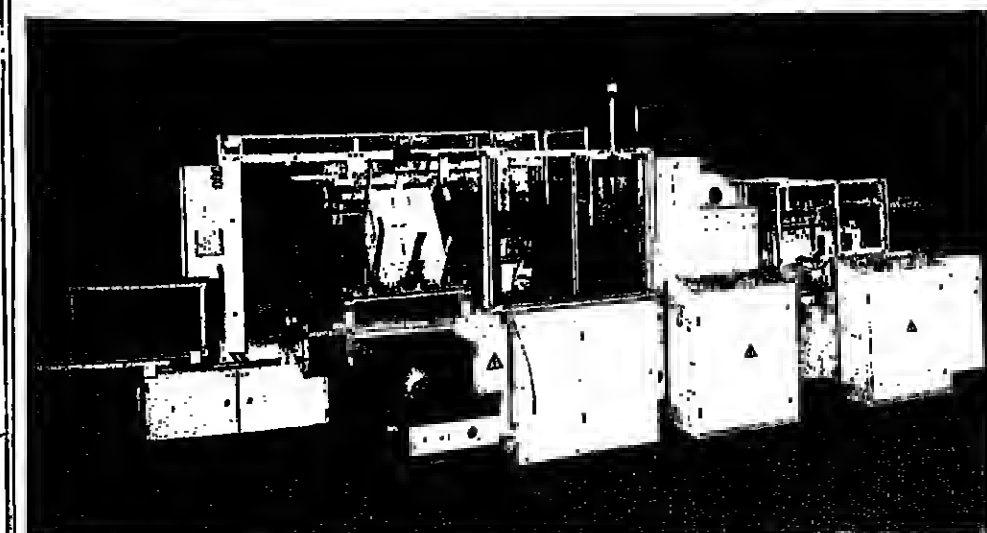
Seven Solla Cartostretch machines operate at Douwe Egberts' tea plant in the north of the Netherlands, and another

is about to be delivered to the company's factory in Budapest. Originally, hand packing of cartons into cases had been used. "We consulted with marketing as to whether we should stay with corrugated boxes, but they wanted something more for display," explains planning and production manager Hidde Risselada.

After this process, the collations are hand palletised.

According to Douwe Egberts, the machines will turn out ten collations of 12 cartons a minute. Cartostretch will also wrap collations of 24 boxes, with a changeover time of around 20 minutes, says the manufacturer. Separable

Continued on back page



Solla Cartostretch machines: seven are operating at Douwe Egberts' tea plant in the Netherlands

Modified levy proposal angers many converters

The modified converter levy proposed by Sir Sydney Lipworth to fund the Producer Responsibility Group (PRG) Valpak scheme (see PN August) has naturally angered many converters who fear that they will be forced to absorb the full force of the levy as packers/fillers and retailers either fail to register with the scheme, or absorb the levy into the price but negotiate it away in price discussions.

In addition, there seems to have been scant discussion so far on the proposed interim measure of a shared burden levy (see page 10). More worrying, the PRG has yet to formally adopt the levy scheme.

Christopher Stewart Smith PRG chairman tells PN that this is likely to happen at the beginning of the month when a unified position will be taken and talks with the government will begin.

"More time to respond"

Given the report's late arrival, the consultation period has now been extended to September 9 to give companies more time to digest and respond to the complicated levy scheme, which has been described as "a

good old British compromise."

Without underpinning legislation the scheme is doomed to failure, a point emphatically endorsed by Sir Sydney and all those who made submissions to him (see PN July).

Undoubtedly, few will disagree with Sir Sydney's statement that "There is no levy point that is capable of satisfying all objectives and criteria and which does not have serious flaws and disadvantages."

The reaction is polarised between retailers and converters. A number of crucial decisions have yet to be made and industry opinion seems to be that more people should have a say before they are taken.

Policing the levy is a major issue. "Essentially the levy gives packers/fillers and retail-

Continued on back page

Material prices set to rise again

Raw material prices across all sectors are set to rise again this Autumn as a result of demand outstripping supply in many market areas.

As Jim Pugh, chief executive of the Packaging and Industrial Films Association says: "The buoyant economies of the United States and countries around the Pacific rim are drawing in raw material supplies leaving polymer stock levels in Western Europe at their lowest for more than a year."

Pifa estimates that the plastics films industry will be facing a minimum increase of 25 per cent, rising to almost 50 per cent for PVC. A similar situation exists for the rigid container market and across PET, PP, HDPE, LDPE and PE, with various double figure increases going through each month.

For polystyrene, the current supply problems with the monomer are predicted to last well into next year, and further huge price hikes are expected by some producers to be experienced well into 1996.

Commodity plastics are like agricultural products, prices are dependent on harvest and demand, an industry spokesperson told PN.

Similar price rises are being experienced in the paper and board, metal and even wooden pallet industries. There has been a rapid escalation in waste paper and pulp prices throughout the summer, and these are now being passed on at around £50 a tonne for folding boxboard products. In the metals market, tinplate increases of between 6 and 12 per cent were imposed earlier this year.

The rocketing price and escalating shortage of timber is now impacting on buyers of timber pallets and packaging—the worst for twenty years. Purchasers of pallets and packing cases will soon face price rises of more than 25 per cent and suffer growing shortages of pallets, says the UK Timber Packaging and Pallet Confederation (Timecon).

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The oil in the machine...

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“ The impact of raw material price increases are now being felt more and more by most sections of the packaging chain. Although polymer price rises are the most dramatic at the current time, converters of other materials are now also finding that raw material costs are escalating.

This is not to say that most of the larger companies are getting some of the increases through, but some off-the-record comments to this office have been more along the lines of this year's negotiations being 'uniquely difficult'. Indeed, it is common knowledge that certain fillers/retailers have been actively looking for price reductions throughout 1994.

Now this is not to say that converters and some fillers are just whingeing about their lot. Some are in fact, quite bullish about their success in this current round of negotiations. The magnitude of the increases, especially in the plastics field, have shocked the industry as a whole, *PN* is told, which has in fact made it easier to justify a raw material price increase to fillers/retailers.

No one likes price increases, no one wants extra costs, but the margins in the packaging industry are nowhere near enough to be able to absorb a 30 per cent rise in base material costs. As Jim Pugh, chief executive of Pifa says: "An understanding of the severity of the situation by major users and their acceptance of unavoidable cost increases is essential if they wish to retain long-term choice within the market."

Some converters talk of the situation becoming 'dangerous' in terms of number of suppliers. There are of course, always companies that are willing to buy volume, but again, the sheer size of a lot of the increases cannot be absorbed for long, even by the companies swallowing the current ones. This is especially so now, post-recession, as any fat that may have existed, certainly does not apply now. All of the possible trimming has been completed. Surely it is in retailers' own interests to keep supply options open, anyway?

The power struggle going on between packaging converters, fillers of own-label and branded goods and retailers is surely one that has to be resolved soon. How, for instance, does the 'no price increase' policy of the retail groups fit in with the latest PRG report? (see page one), let alone raw material costs?

The bottom line in all of this is that although customers are currently getting the prices that they want, it is going to be at the expense of tomorrow's innovation. The supply problems now being faced in the polymers business is down to a lack of investment during the recession. When retailers demand an all-singing-and-dancing pack in three years time, what will the converters say? We had no money for investment in 1994? Commonsense may yet still prevail...

Gail Len, Editor

”

Leaflet label boosts beer

A point of sale promotion offer designed to work just as effectively in either a major supermarket or corner shop, is being used to boost sales of Whitehead's Boddingtons Draught in cans.

Key to the promotion is a 14-page resalable Labeltext leaflet label - attached to the can lids - which details the offer.

"We were looking for a medium that would work equally well on a single can or a pack in any retail situation," says Chris May, marketing manager at Whitehead.

"It would have been difficult to communicate the amount of information we needed on a can and using outer boxing would have been expensive," he says. "The beauty of this promotion is that all the information is essentially contained in the label."

The promotion invites consumers to collect ring pulls from the cans and send away



The Labeltext leaflet label is printed four colour, to match the cans

for free CDs, videos and books.

The leaflet label is produced and printed four colour process, to match the black and gold on the Boddingtons cans by Labeltech Ltd (Crut Road, Witham, Essex CM8 3BJ - tel: 0376 501144, fax: 510979).

The 50mm diameter leaflet is printed offset litho on 100gsm white art paper with

the one colour sealing strip printed rotary letterpress. It is positioned on top of the can and covered by a reusable gold plastics lid stating 'inside'.

Printed on the can, immediately below the lid, is lettering announcing the promotion and also the freephone number.

For further information call 0800 772268

be altered by handwheel.

"This is a particularly wide size range which we believe has not been available previously on a single machine," says Michael Kane. "As a result, drinks and dairy companies, especially those involved in contract work, can erect a full range of boxed quickly and automatically."

With an output of 30 x 2 litre boxes a minute, the Kanepack K5 is able to keep pace with four or five single head fillers, explains Mr Kane. Alternatively, the speed of the machine and its fast changeover can be employed to build up small stocks of various sizes, virtually on demand, for complete production flexibility.

For further information call 0800 772268

Bag in box erector covers all sizes

A bag in box erector which covers virtually the entire size range of boxes used for bags of wine, dairy products, cordials, syrups and soft drinks has been introduced by Kanepack, part of Howden Packaging Equipment.

This allows a single machine to handle the range of box sizes from 2 litre consumer packs to 10 litre catering and pub trade sizes.

The Kanepack Model K5 bag in box erector operates at speeds of up to 18 to 30 boxes a minute, depending on size,

which extends from around 120 x 100 x 200mm for 2 litre bags and up to 250 x 200 x 280mm dimensions of boxes for 10 litre bags.

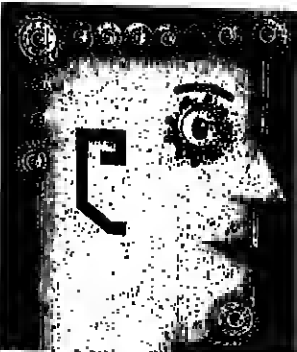
Size change takes 10 minutes, says the company (Kanepack Works, Aintree Road, Perivale, Greenford, Middx UB6 7LA - tel: 081-998 4404, fax: 081-991 9204). It involves fitting just one change part, the platen at the end of the pressure ram. Conveyor flights are carried on a four chain system allowing pitch to

PPMA show expects 6000 visitors

Nearly 200 machinery companies will be exhibiting at the PPMA Show at the NEC, Birmingham from 27-29 of this month (not in November as we reported last month).

For the second year running it will be a members-only show and around 6000 visitors are expected through the doors.

"Visitor levels are going to be helped by a record number of new machines at the exhibi-



PPMA: many machine firms

tion as many companies now view PPMA as the most important event for product launches because of the dedicated theme of calibre of visitor," says Andrew Manly of the PPMA (Progress House, 404 Brighton Road, South Croydon, Surrey CR2 6AN - tel: 081-681 8226, fax: 081-681 1641).

Our preview starts on p.12.

For further information call 0800 772268

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Carbonated drinks in multi format

Cantrell & Cochrane (C&C) will this month launch several brands of carbonated soft drinks - including Club Orange, Club Lemon and Pepsi - onto the Irish market in the Decopack multipack format.

According to Francis Maher, manufacturing engineering manager at C&C, the Decopack multipack provides the biggest consumer benefits ever offered to the Irish market in terms of value for money and consumer convenience.

"The stretch sleeve and handle combination that makes up the system, offers superb graphics with very real convenience for the shopper," Mr Maher tells *Packaging News*. "The 2 x 2 litre bottle pack is actually easier to carry than a single 2 litre bottle."

The Comag equipment is the first multipack facility installed at C&C and, because it is an individually controlled, twin-lane version, continuous production is guaranteed. It is integrated into an existing bottling operation and has been designed to feed products to either the Decopack system or directly to an existing, high speed shrink wrapper.

The Decopack machine is Model FDZZ50 which has been supplied by Comag's UK agents, Dunn Systems (Smisby Road, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leics LE65 2UR - tel: 0530 414444, fax: 411110). "We have been involved with the development of this system, and the result is a very flexible machine that offers no production constraints," says Mr Maher.



The stretch sleeve and handle combination: superb graphics

Decopack comprises two or more bottles, which are held together by a special grade of polyethylene stretch sleeve manufactured by Smurfit Packaging Products (Bolton Street, Radcliffe, Manchester M26 0SR - tel: 061-724 5403, 061-724 6416), which also supplies the carry handle (see

Packaging News August 1994). At C&C, 14 different bottle formats are possible, involving 1, 1.5, 2 and 3 litre sizes.

DUNN SYSTEMS: For further information call 0800 772268

SMURFIT: For further information call 0800 772268

Recycled hdpe for lubricants

Lubricating oils from Unipart International are being packed in bottles with a recycled hdpe content, with containers supplied by Plysu Containers for the same price as all-virgin equivalents.

All Unipart's lubricating products from 500ml to 5 litres are now being packed in recycled materials, and primarily plastics. Chief among its suppliers is Plysu, which recently agreed to take all the hdpe consumer waste collected by Milton Keynes Borough Council (see *PN* Aug '93), washing and regenerating it for its own use.

Unipart's decision to use more recycled packaging was accelerated by the news of the agreement between Plysu and the council, says the company. Now, the bottles for Unipart are the first to be blown using Plysu's new source of recycle.

Both the shape and basic colours of the containers will



Unipart is putting its lubricating products into recycled plastics

stay as before, specified to the same performance levels. For this reason, the changeover has been smooth.

It is now policy to encour-

age the use of recycled material by supplying packs with a percentage of per for the same price as those in virgin plastics, says Plysu (Woburn Sands, Milton

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Prestek's stand at the PPMA exhibition. The lucky winner will be announced at 4pm on the last day of the show. Good luck and happy motoring...

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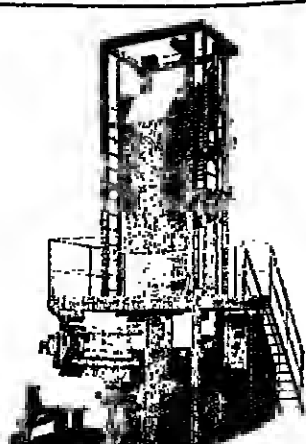
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Shrink system economy

Shrink film manufacturers are looking closely at an infra-red system using energy from a re-emitter source, said to offer economies on space and energy and an ability to give quality results with complex shrink films.

The technique, licensed by Double R Controls from EA Technology in the US, uses infra-red energy which is said to optimise energy transfer into the shrink film. Interest has been expressed in the system by WR Grace Cryovac, which will be carrying out further research at its Milan technical centre.

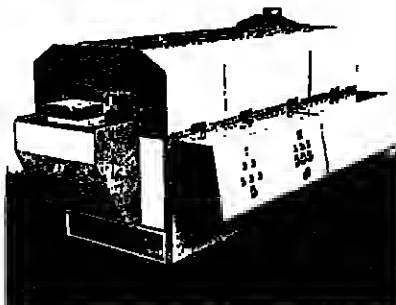
Since the heat source is an

extended surface, distribution is more even than on traditional tunnels. Close control of power output is possible with elements which can be activated or switched out as required. Variation can also be created across the width of the re-emitter panel.

Energy comes from a short-wave source, and is re-emitted

at a much higher wavelength from the high emissivity coating which lines the tunnel.

Cryovac points out that it has always been difficult to obtain the best presentation results with its BDF barrier shrink film using hot air systems. Product manager



Double R Controls shrink wrap tunnel

Alastair Wiles sees potential in the controllability, efficiency

and energy savings of the Double R system. In chilled packaging areas in particular, where higher energy tunnels are not popular, the re-emitter technology could provide a solution.

Heat up time is just five minutes, says the company, because of the low thermal mass of the surface when compared with a long-wave emitter.

With purchase costs up to 30 per cent less than conventional tunnels, says Double R (Heywood Business Park, Pilsforth Road, Heywood, Lancs OL10 2SJ - tel: 0706 623625, fax: 366881), and around 40 per cent less energy consumption, the system can offer major savings for users.

For further information K9 176 Call for details 0839 772288

Blowmould design system boosts pet bottle success

Blowmoulded pet bottles for flavoured Scottish mineral water demonstrate how a low volume product launch can benefit from the production system of manufacturer Lab-

plas, says the company.

The launch of Clearly Scottish mineral water was made feasible, despite the producer's determination not to use a stock bottle, by a combi-

nation of specially designed blowmoulds and standard neck and base sections. A standard bottle would not have allowed the product to stand out as the bottler wanted.

By taking the route offered by Labplas, Scottish Border Springs was able to limit plastic moulding investment on a product launch to well under £10,000, whereas a full tool set might cost three times as much. Moreover, if orders mean that a machine's capacity is taken up for a full year, Labplas will refund the customer's investment in tooling.

"If we'd had to pay the full cost of the mould, we would probably not

have gone ahead, at that stage at least," says Calum Brown, production manager at the company.

Now, with the product a great success with consumers, Scottish Border Springs has had to invest in a second set of tooling. "To have a brand new product take off so spectacularly is good news for both companies," says Mr Brown.

Daily bottle production for the customer is now 17,000 but will soon be doubled with the new mould, says Labplas (Irtton House, The Tower Estate, Warpsgrove Lane, Chalgrove, Oxon OX44 7TH - tel: 0865 400315, fax: 400350).

Scottish Border Springs worked on the Clearly Scottish project with NutraSweet, which had carried out its own research on the use of its product to flavouring water. Scottish Border Springs has also achieved mineral status for its water.

Labplas UK now has 17 Aoki stretch-blowmoulding machines and five injection moulding machines.

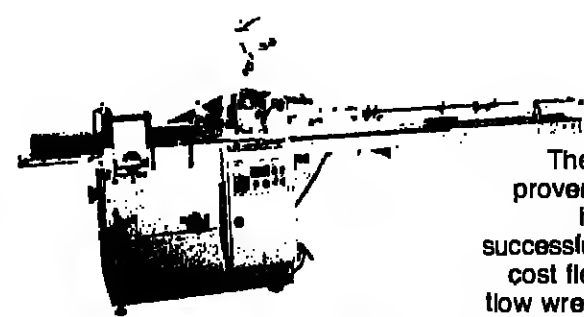
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Clearly Scottish flavoured mineral water in pet bottles: specially designed blowmould



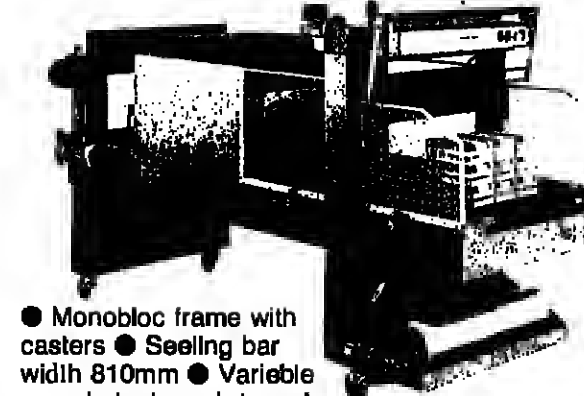
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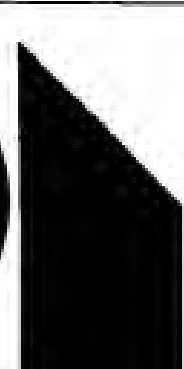
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Tin expertise displayed

Tins which are now being used in the United States as a connoisseur gift item to contain fresh pears is just one of the latest products from Linpac Metal Packaging which is said to demonstrate its versatility.

Historically, the company has always been a major supplier to the biscuit market but, says Stafford Clarke, general manager at Linpac Reading, we can offer far more than just biscuit tins. Although biscuits still represent over half of its production, the promotional and confectionery tin business is currently growing apace.

Linpac has just completed the substantial order for Silver Crane to supply a highly decorated version of one of its largest tins for export to the United States. The Riviera

four-piece slip lid tin, which measures 340 x 265 x 120mm, is being supplied by Silver Crane to the Harry & David Company, which is selling it as a fresh pears gift item.

The tin is a new Silver Crane design and has been produced to look like a fruit packaging crate.

Printed in four colours on both the body and lid, the tin uses a combination of strategically applied matt and gloss varnishes to give the fruit a realistic texture, says Linpac (Avondale Way, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 1XE - tel: 0633 485232, fax: 864596).

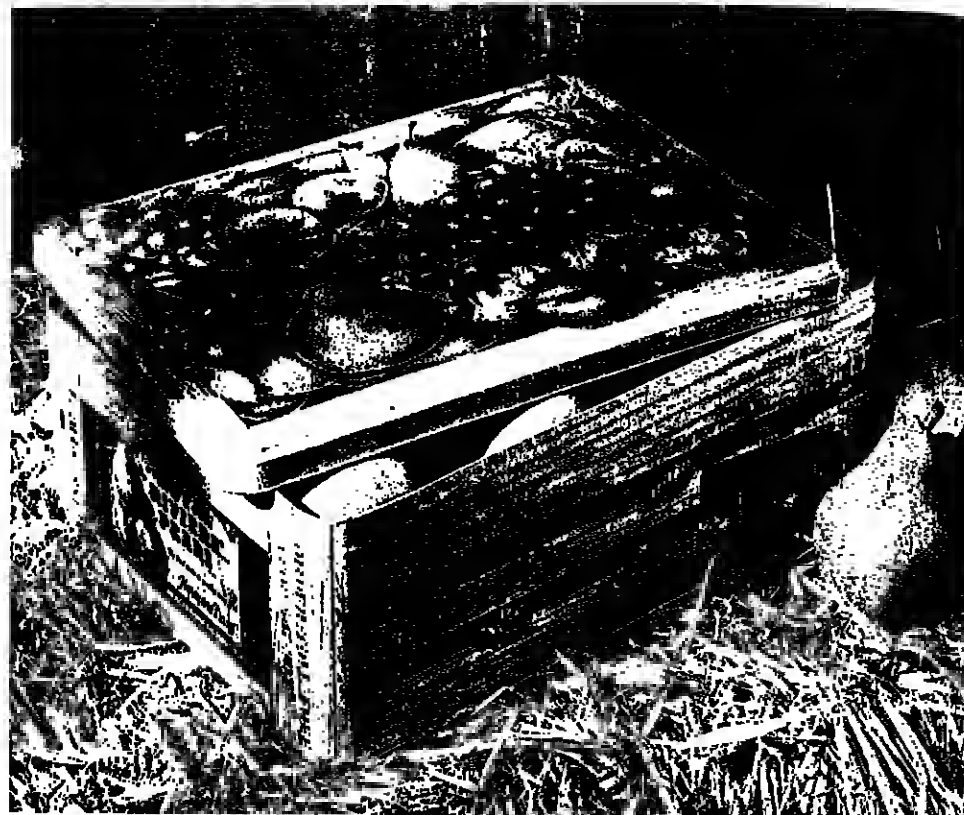
Silver Crane says that it chose Linpac to produce the tin primarily because of its expertise in producing tins of that size, but also because it

could demonstrate a willingness and flexibility to respond quickly to the additional orders which are expected from the USA.

This flexibility of approach is key to success which, traditionally, has not always been available to customers of the metal packaging industry, says Mr Clarke. "We have to reduce lead times by investing in technology and people," he tells *Packaging News*. "We now set up project teams to see a new design through to manufacture," he says.

The company has also strengthened its commitment to the US market with the appointment of a national sales manager (see *PN*, August).

For further information call 0838 772288



Linpac Metal Packaging Cwmbran is supplying the Riviera four-piece slip lid tin for export to the USA

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Mr. John Smith
Managing Director
Packaging Printers
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Blue:	L* = 55.83	a* = -18.71	b* = -47.16

The tolerance specification for all colours is by CMC, L*a*b* of 2:1 and of 1:2. Colour specifications and tolerances were established using the X-Rite 938 Spectrodensitometer and QA-Master software.

The report format we prefer is the format generated by X-Rite's QA-Master software. We have enclosed a sample report for your information.

We anticipate having our new colour control system in place by the end of the month, and request your full cooperation at that time.

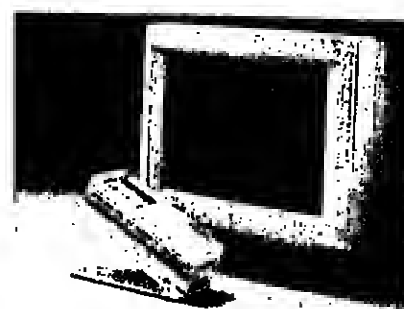
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Colourful sleeve adds appeal to tea whitener

A tea whitener from Nestlé UK has been given eye-catching on-shelf appeal by a full-length shrinksleeve from Decorative Sleeves, with colour matching across the range of paramount importance.

brand manager for the Camation brand.

The sleeve labels are supplied on the reel by Decorative Sleeves (Rollsby Road, Hardwick Industrial Estate, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE30 4LS - tel: 0553 769319, fax: 767097).

Sleeves

for Nestlé's newly launched Camation Tea-mate had to follow the brand image set by Coffee-mate. The sleeves are eight colour printed on clear film and show a close-up of a spoon of product being tipped into a cup of tea.

"Extensive market research determined that Tea-mate has wide consumer appeal. The product requires packaging which reflects the warm tones associated with a cup of tea," explains Sue Boskovic, senior



The sleeves are eight colour printed on clear film

Demand for printed sleeves is growing in the UK, where Decorative Sleeves has around 90 per cent of its sales.

Mr Dale Hamilton tells PN, the company expects to increase possible shrink on sleeves from the current maximum between 65 and 70 per cent to 75 per cent.

For further information call 0838 772288

Recoup: voluntary funding grows to over £1 million

An expansion in membership of Recoup, the used plastics bottles recovery scheme, to 50 member companies in under four years has been matched by an increase in voluntary funding to over £1 million.

"Recoup's members and sponsors have already played a significant part in demonstrating producer responsibility within the plastics industry, and we thank them for their support, often during difficult trading conditions," says Mike Barney of Elida Gibbs, chairman of Recoup (9, Metro Centre, Welbeck Way, Woodston,

Peterborough PE2 7WH - tel: 01733 390021, fax: 390031).

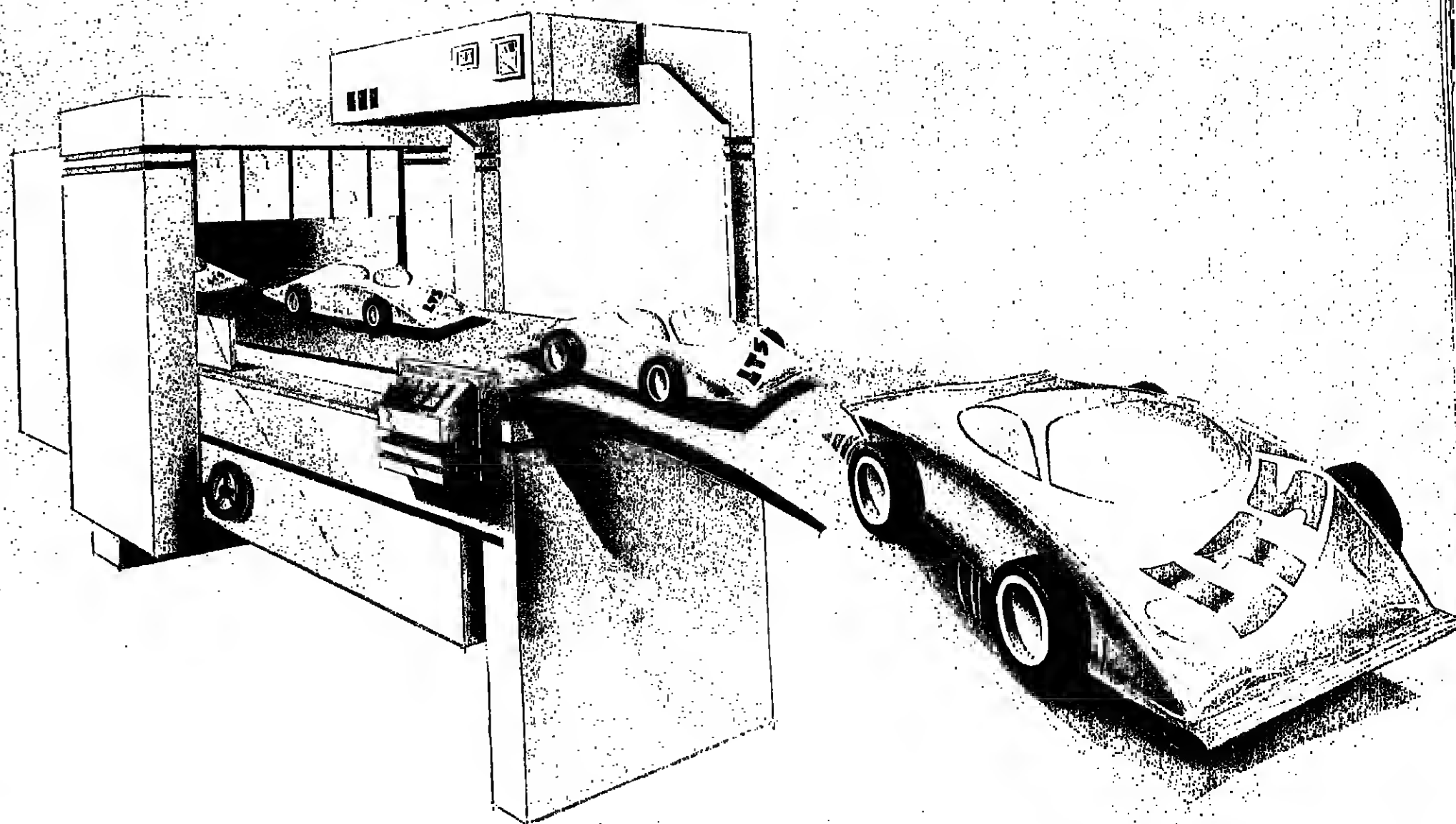
"This is exactly the level of commitment I expected from companies in the packaging chain," says Secretary of State for the Environment John Gummer. But he has called for more companies to contribute to the initiative, and so help achieve a high level of plastics recycling.

Apart from member companies, several non-members have helped sponsor individual projects.

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test test

What happens if your competitor uses Mobil's LTS coated OPP packaging films before you do?



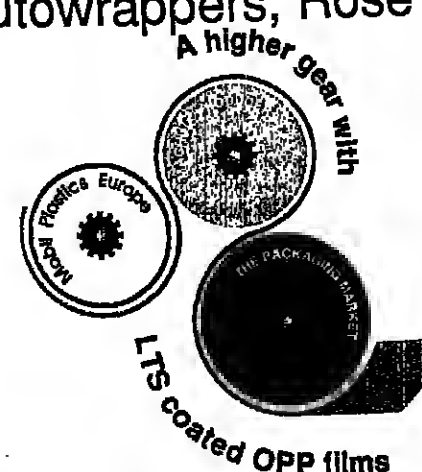
His machines will increase their packaging speed significantly by over 30%. Outstanding seal integrity combined with film reliability will better protect his packs.

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Workshops are being arranged on 5, 6 and 7 October at the premises of the following participating companies in seven European countries:

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Hot foil printers add 'best before' to dairy products

The Cheese Company Ltd, formerly Express Foods, has installed seven hot foil printers from Preston Printers at its Lockerbie Creamery and ordered two more, to run on its butter and cheese packaging lines.

The company had been searching for equipment to both print and emboss 'best before' dates and packaging codes to its mini packs for the catering market. Process and packaging manager at the dairy Ian Roy, chose a 2A/2 twin head hot foil and multi-head printers as best suited for the application, PN is told.

"Producing
up to 200
impressions
a minute"

In the butter processing and packaging plant, the twin head 2A/2 hot foil printers are mounted on each of the Benhil high speed butter packers, producing up to 200 impressions a minute. The foil is then separated into two channels on contact with the product, allowing up to 400 packs a minute to arrive in the discharge section.

Two similar units are in

action on the Corazza wrapping machines in the same plant, says Preston Printers (Preston House, Petworth Road, Haslemere, Surrey - tel 0428 654941, fax: 654769).

In the cheese section of the Lockerbie plant, a multi head printer, based on the 2A/2 print modules, has been installed on a seven lane Multivac machine.

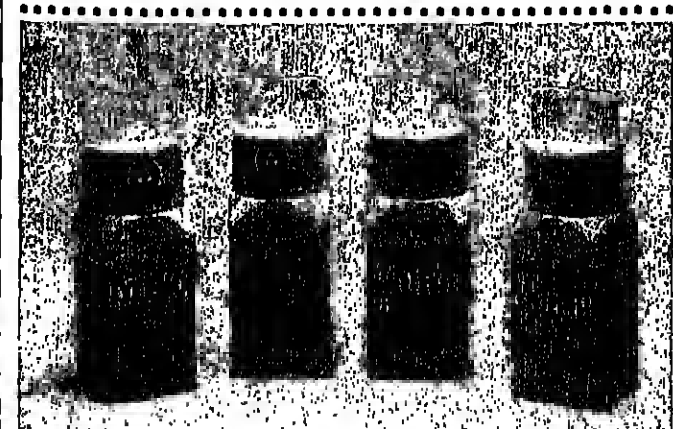
In operation, each of the seven print head provides two codes, which allows for one on each of the 14 packs produced on the Multivac unit. The hot foil printing tape is set at a predetermined angle to allow seven independent rows of print to be produced within one width of foil.

This specially developed system allows maximum use of hot foil ribbon without any unnecessary waste, says Preston Printers.

According to Mr Roy, Preston Printers came up with the right machine specification at the right time, and The Cheese Company Ltd has been "more than satisfied with them."

The range of equipment from Preston Printers will be on show at the PPMA show later this month.

Stand: 410
For further information call 0838 772266



Fastcap easy-open closure system by Beeson and Sons Ltd

Easy-open closure is helpful to arthritics

An easy-open closure system, Fastcap, designed by the one-stop packaging patenting company Beeson and Sons Ltd, is now available to multinationals in the UK.

The US analgesic Tylenol, said to be the biggest selling over the counter healthcare product in the world, is sold in one of Beeson's Easy-Open bottles and caps under the name Tylenol Fastcap.

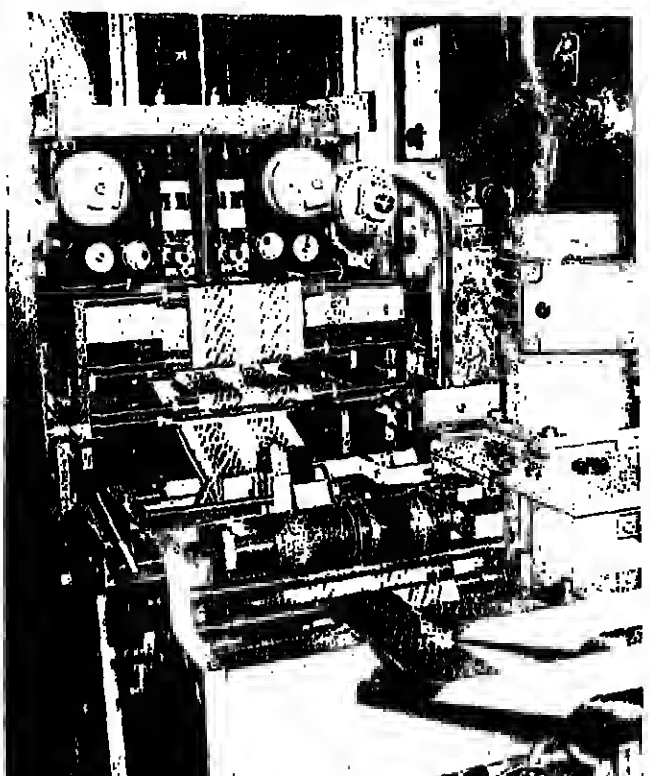
"It is targeted at adults who have difficulty opening bottles of medication," says Tylenol drug producer Johnson & Johnson Corporation. Fastcap is now also licensed to Upjohn for its drug Motrin, says Witney King of International Hos-

pitals Group (IHG). The bottle has been recommended by the US Arthritis Foundation and sales of Motrin have risen fast.

Beeson (Hertford Place, Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 2XB - tel: 0923 779111, fax: 896759), which is part of IHG, does not sell any products but earns its income from royalty payments on its pack designs and closures.

The company will design, market and make the mould for the closure system and has the capacity to do a run of up to 5000 sample prototypes for market research of each design.

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Butter processing and packaging: twin head 2A/2 hot foil printers are mounted on each side of the Benhil high speed butter packers

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Down to basics: how the PRG levy will work

Between £100 million and £250 million a year will be needed to fund the Producer Responsibility Group's (PRG) Valpak scheme (see page 1).

How the money is to be raised to achieve the increase in recovery of packaging waste from 32 per cent in 1993 to 58 per cent by weight and to extend close-to-home recycling facilities to eight out of ten homes in the country by the year 2000 has been outlined by Sir Sydney Lipworth in his levy report.

"Matters are complicated"

However, the final details of the 'modified converter levy' have yet to be thrashed out. To complicate matters, a shared burden levy has been proposed in the meantime (see PN August).

This would entail all members along the packaging chain including retailers and raw materials producers with a turnover above a certain threshold to pay a levy while the converter levy scheme is put in place. One informed PRG source tells PN he estimates this shared burden scheme will run for around two years.

According to the report, all

converters and importers of finished packaging will have to register with the Industry Organisation (IO). Initially a threshold may be introduced to exclude the smaller converters and importers based either on turnover or materials - this has yet to be decided.

A turnover yield would then be set for packers/fillers, wholesalers and retailers as well as importers of packaged goods. All those above the threshold would have to register with the IO.

In some cases, packers and fillers may themselves be converters of raw materials into packaging for their own use. They too should be treated as converters and a levy applied on their output.

The IO would then set the rates of the levy for different types of materials to be based on weight, turnover or on other measures such as volume or numbers of units. All this still has to be agreed.

Converters and importers would pay the levy and account for it to the IO. The levy would usually be incorporated in a producer's price, although it could be shown separately in their sales invoices.

If converters fear that any of their customers might refuse to pay the levy, they would

have the option of invoicing it separately to those customers who are registered (ie packers/fillers or retailers) and the responsibility for the levy will then pass to them.

Registered customers

Registered customers could agree to have the levy incorporated in the price in the same way that non registered customers do, in which event there would be no need for a separate invoice.

A quarterly accounting system is recommended, whereby the converters submit quarterly returns to the IO of their sales. This will allow the IO to make levy calculations.

Converters will also supply a quarterly return of sales to the IO of those registered customers who will be liable to pay because they have not incorporated the levy into the price. The IO would then look to those customers for the levy.

Converters would not be liable to pay the levy on exports, or on sales to registered customers who do not agree to have the levy incorporated into the price.

If registered retailers or wholesalers are seen to be resisting the passing on of the levy, the IO should have the discretion to introduce a similar invoicing pro-

vision for packer fillers to their registered retail or wholesale customers, suggests the report.

The effect would be that where the converter's customer, for instance a packer, opts to pay the levy direct and not have it incorporated in the price, it would in turn be allowed the option of including the levy in its invoices to its registered customers.

"Invoicing separately"

This would pass the responsibility onto the customers. Packer fillers would also make quarterly returns in the same way as the converters. It is hoped that this system will eventually be fully accepted by the packaging chain and that the converters will not need to invoice registered customers separately but will incorporate the levy in their prices for everyone.

Similarly, it is hoped that registered purchasers of packaging will pass through to their customers this inclusive price for the material they have bought.

Where the right climate of cooperation exists, it is thought that there would be no need for additional measures to bol-

ster the converter levy.

But what happens if this fails and the larger packers, fillers wholesalers and retailers resist the passing down of the levy? Should this happen - and it is considered likely - Sir Sydney recommends that the IO should reserve the right to amend the scheme by, for example, directly imposing a levy on turnover for registered packer/fillers or registered retailers and wholesalers. Alternatively the IO could consider a retailer/wholesaler levy.

Sir Sydney also advises that there should be provisions to exclude vat arising on payments of the levy to the IO and also to grant a refund to the IO on the packaging levy that is passed down the chain to retailers in the prices of the final products.

In the meantime, to jump start the levy into action it is proposed that a type of 'shared burden levy' should be introduced to raise funds quickly.

This will entail registering all participants in the packaging chain above a certain turnover threshold in much the same way as the converter levy.

It is suggested that some of the raw material manufacturers and importers should also be involved, but they would pay a lower rate to recognise that

their turnover includes raw packaging sales.

Appropriate weighting

Either the levy should be imposed pro rata on a basis of turnover on all participants, or there might be some split that recognises the appropriate weighting between the various categories.

"This is a scheme that would be appropriate for a temporary period to get the funding started and that is unlikely to be considered right if the amount required rises significantly," says Sir Sydney.

However, the turnover limits and the amount to be paid - or whether the shared option burden will be acceptable - have yet to be agreed.

"I should caution the PRG that as the entire project is at such an early stage, any funding scheme that is introduced initially should be regarded as provisional so that it should be capable of fairly ready alteration as developing circumstances require," Sir Sydney tells Packaging News.

For a copy of the report or to send a submission on it contact the PRG 4th Floor Bowater House, 114 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LJ - tel 021-823 8666, fax: 071-823 8363

Researching a fresher image

A relaunch of the Dixcel Family Value range of kitchen paper, facial tissue and toilet tissue products, aiming for a fresher, more modern image, has been helped by use of the Scantest research technique from Scantel.

Working with design agency Pemberton and Whiteford, Jamont UK, manufacturers of the range, selected three possible routes: family appeal, environmental appeal and value for money. Qualitative research identified the family option as being potentially the best.

"The hard green edge has gone off the British market," says market research manager at Jamont, Andy Parry. "Using recycled or being

'environmentally friendly' is taken for granted now." Consumers also expect the same standards of product and presentation from recycled as virgin materials, he says.

Jamont produced three executions of the main graphic on the packs and three versions of the border, generating nine variants, as well as the starting design. By using Scantest, these were distilled to a single design which incorporated the best of the new and discarded versions.

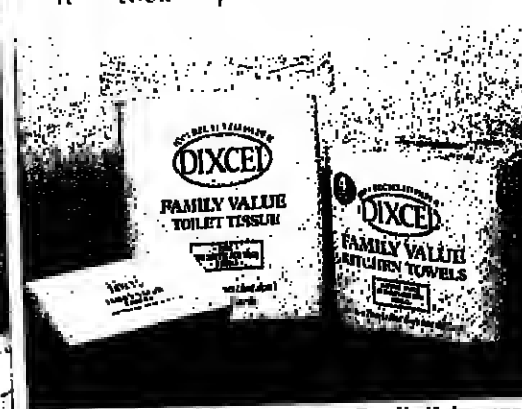
"Scantest can cope with a large number of alternatives in a more structured way than other methods," says Mr Parry. When used for product research, the technique might be required to accommodate up to 400 variables, as com-

pared with a likely 20 for packaging, points out Bill Dunning of Scantel.

Over 200 main shoppers participated in research. The various grades of test - includ-

ing initial impact, how the product is seen to fit in with an individual's lifestyle, living in order of preference - gave Jamont a clear execution style, but established that changes were necessary.

It took



Jamont's relaunched range, incorporating research by Scantel, and (right) the previous Family Value packs

Jamont six weeks to develop the final design from the first brief with the help of Scantest, but new product development is never a fast process, says Mr Dunning. The range was relaunched in July.

One of Mr Dunning's convictions is that packaging can date very quickly, with consumer perceptions changing when a product is launched in a particular market with radically

different presentation. When compiling Scantest results, competitor information can be introduced and these products ranked alongside contending options for a launch.

According to Scantel, the same research techniques can be applied by retailers to ascertain the selling power of their own and other brands in particular product areas.

The technique as a whole evaluates consumer preference, says Scantel (27 Dale Street, Manchester, M1 1EY - tel: 061-236 1951, fax: 061-236 0768), and gives what is effectively a sales forecast.

Another option for users of the test is the compiling of a perceptual map, showing in a graphic and measurable form the way that different attributes of a product stand out most for consumers.

For further information call 061-236 1951

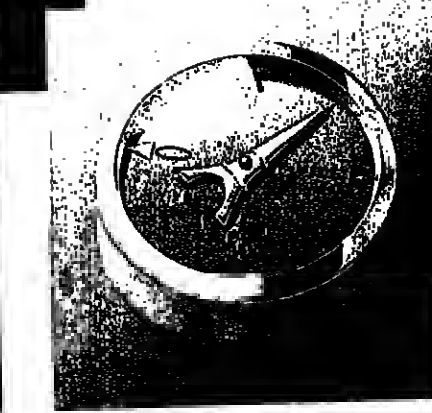
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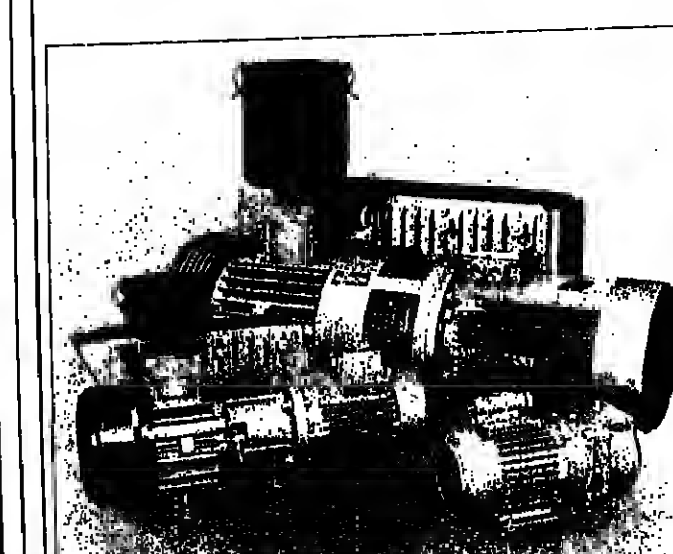
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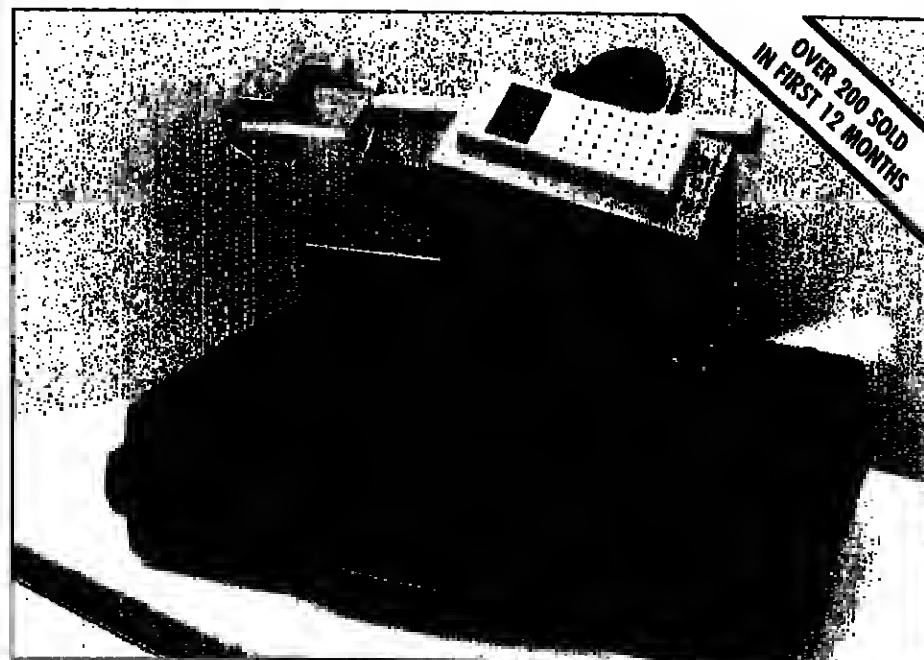
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For the second year running, the machinery-only PPMA show will be a members-only event with nearly 200 exhibitors attending.

Held at the NEC Birmingham from 27 to 29 September, it has already sold out and around 6000 visitors are expected.

**Here we preview
some of the machinery
on view at the show.**

**Visit Packaging
News on Stand 5160.**



Loma Smart checkweighing system will be seen in action

Smarter weigher

Smart, the latest checkweighing system from Loma Systems, which offers food and pharmaceutical manufacturers benefits including savings in capital maintenance and space costs will be demonstrated.

Smart comprises integrated checkweighing and code checking technology and is capable of simultaneously handling multi-weight products which have randomly merged from different packing lines onto a single conveyor.

Software enables the checkweigher to individually recognise each product and checkweigh it according to pre-set parameters. It is suit-

able for use on any packaging line where product weights vary but pack sizes remain similar such as production lines which are merged at the end of line to achieve higher output speeds.

The system operates when an infrared Data Logic DS40 bar code scanner reads the bar-code on the pack as it passes into the checkweighing system.

Parameters selected

This information is then transmitted to the cheekweigher which decodes it, identifies the product and selects the correct parameters to weigh the product against.

If the pack weight falls outside the given tolerance it is automatically rejected into an integrally mounted reject bin.



Loma (Southwood, Farnborough, Hants GU14 0NY, tel: 0252 540346, fax: 513322) offers *PN* that by using Smart fewer checkweighers need to be used. It also reduces the number of sources of weight information simplifying production control and enabling product relative shift reports to be compiled and printed out.

For further information **K9 125** Call for details 0839 772244

Flexible, reliable piston fill

Designed in response to the need in the toiletries industry for a flexible, reliable volumetric piston filling machine, suitable for use with a wide range of products, the S250-A Multifil will be displayed by Masterfil Ltd.

It is an integrated filling and capping system and has been designed to handle the wide variety of caps used by the toiletries manufacturers such as screw, press on and spray heads.

Speeds of up to 60 a minute can be obtained filling and capping containers between 10ml and 250ml. With three fill variable speeds, the six-head filler

ensures products can be filled and capped to suit both the product consistency and container shape, says Masterfil (**U**) Farmbrough Close, Stocklake, Aylesbury, Bucks HP20 1DQ - tel: 0296 35001, fax: 35002).

Features have been included to reduce downtime during changeover and to make it easier and quicker to clean. By programming the machine to full inspection, stroke pistons will become easily visible at the bottom of the cylinders enabling the operator to check all pistons has been removed.

For further information **K9 126** Call for details 0839 77226

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[illegible]

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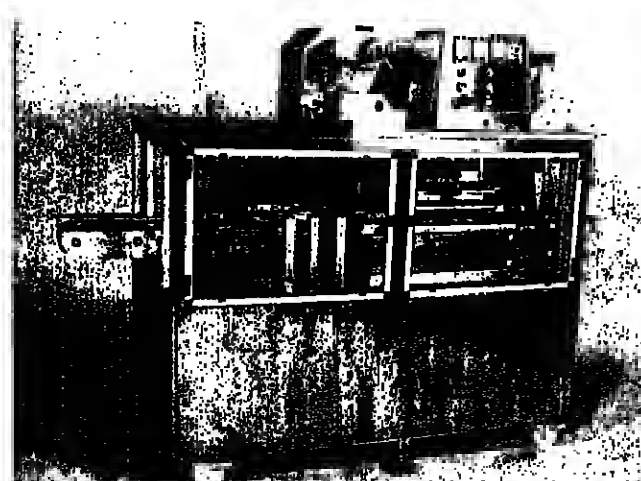
British heat seal opportunity

Automatic heat seal equipment which is said to take ready meal production a step further, will be launched by Packaging Automation Ltd.

Launched under the Vision 2000 series name, Packaging Automation believes the machinery will offer food manufacturers the opportunity to buy British designed and manufactured, high precision equipment for the first time.

A variety of models provide capacities from 20 to 80 packs a minute. Vision 2000 incorporates advanced features which will set new benchmarks for the heat seal industry, says Packaging Automation (Montgomery Close, Parkgate Industrial Estate, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 8XW - tel: 0565 755000, fax: 751015).

Joining the Vision 2000



Packaging Automation will launch its Vision 2000 heat sealers

equipment on the stand will be the latest in controlled atmosphere packaging from the company, the 20-16 CAP machine. The new unit has an automatic rotary table.

Standard or customised

machines are available for sale or hire from the company as well as special purpose equipment for specific needs.

Stand: 4660

For further information K9 143 Call for details 0839 772288

PPMA BRIEFS

DEMONSTRATED FOR the first time in the UK will be the Schaubert SMC-84 programmable pick and place robot with vision system, working on the stand of agent System Packaging Ltd (0824 364844). It will be shown linked to a Cavanna Logica pillow pack machine.

Stand: 1450

CLEAR DISPLAYS carrying more information than previously feature on the latest range of Anritsu checkweighers, shown for the first time outside Japan by Skormen Promac (0832 789846). Different weight ranges and accuracy are available in models for food, pharmaceuticals and other end use.

Stand: 5800

A PRINT AND APPLY labeller from Pogo Ltd will be among equipment shown for the first

time. The Pogo 110/125E will improve response to just in time requirements, says the company (0206 854896). The 100 TEC high speed carton labeller will be shown in a compact version.

Stand: 4050

THE TYPE 8 travelling printhead system from Videojet Systems International (0820 468443) will be demonstrated with the Excel 170i Ultra Inkjet printer. The Excel HR (High Resolution) printer will be shown coding characters down to 0.79mm height.

Stand: 3110

LABEL PRINTING machines shown by Pinewood Label Systems Ltd for the first time to the industry include the Cobra thermal transfer printer, available in online go and standalone versions, and the RBC-40, which combines printing and label out-

ting from plain roll adhesive stock, says Pinewood (0832 243724).

Stand: 7110

DATA MATRIX codes - a small D mark said to hold more information than traditional barcodes - can be scanned by the Data Matrix Reader, available from Acuity Imaging Ltd (0208 639609). Other industrial vision systems will also be shown.

Stand: 4650

Inkjet input choice

The latest technology from Image to be demonstrated at the show will be the Series 75 inkjet printer, with its options of input through the integral operator interface or handheld terminal.

All simple routines can be handled from the operator interface, which uses clear written messages for selection. The removable terminal complements this by allowing for other tasks such as message editing. Messages can be seen full size on the wysiwyg display, whatever the combination of text, barcodes and logos.

Up to four lines of information can be printed with the single head version, and eight with the twin jet. Since text or graphics can be positioned anywhere within maximum character height, the operator can select the most suitable format and line spacing.

Other features include automatic start-up and shut-

down, auto-diagnosis and troubleshooting, automatic rinsing, flushing and nozzle unblocking and jet speed control, says Image (Image House, 732 Lightfoot Street, Hoole, Chester CH2 3AD - tel: 0244 350732, fax: 350737).

Printheads can be offered at either 2.8 dots a mm or 4.5 dots a mm resolution, with print speeds of up to 4.4m a second. There is a choice of 11 languages for dialogue between operator and machine. The Series 75 is based on the already established Series 7 range.

Stand: 5560

For further information K9 117 Call for details 0839 772288

Handling extra demand

A Twinpack fully automatic handle applicator will be shown for the first time in the UK on the stand of the Italian company's agent Aetna, along with a Robopac stretchwrapper and other equipment from the Aetna group.

The Twinpack applicator, which can run inline with a shrinkwrapper (see PN June '94) is gaining acceptance in the UK as demand for handles increases, says Aetna, which is also a distributor of 3M tapes.

Robopac's 1515 Logic pallet stretchwrapper is equipped with electronically adjustable power pre-stretch and six pre-programmable wrapping

cycles. The entire range has been redesigned with digital controls for ease of use, with this model also offering maximum film economy, says Aetna (Greensbury Farm, Bolnisi, Bedford MK44 2ET - tel: 0234 376744, fax: 376787).

This year, the company will show the Dimac Starfilm MS single film roll cut and wrap continuous shrink wrapping machine. Like other machines in the Dimac range it is said to offer simple technology, ease of access and operation.

Stand: 4450

For further information K9 115 Call for details 0839 772288

Self-checking detector

On the Lock Inspection Systems Ltd stand will be the MET20 range of microprocessor-based metal detectors.

The MET20 operator interface is said to be easy to use. Details of up to 60 different products can be stored on the system, which has a continuous self-checking feature.

Checkweighers shown will include the CKA20 waterproof and CK15L units. Accuracy on

these machines is within $\pm 1g$ on products up to 5kg.

The Ultrascan automatic x-ray based inspection system from Luck (Neville Street, Oldham, Lancs OL9 6LF - tel: 061-624 0333, fax: 061-624 5181) is said to offer accurate contaminant detection at a high pack throughput rate.

Stand: 6340

For further information K9 116 Call for details 0839 772288

A learned detector

A Metalscout II metal detector with enhanced Autolearn technology and the latest ECW910 Policeman Checkweigher and ECW920 EU approved unit will be unveiled by Ramsey Process Controls a division of Thermides UK Ltd.

Metalscout II offers easy calibration and the improved Autolearn technology means the detector automatically not only learns the product effect and sets the sensitivity level, but also automatically adjusts in cases of, for instance, high moisture content, says Ramsey (Swift Park, Old Leicester Road, Rugby, Warwick CV21 1DZ - tel: 0788 536960, fax: 536980).

Stand: 6630

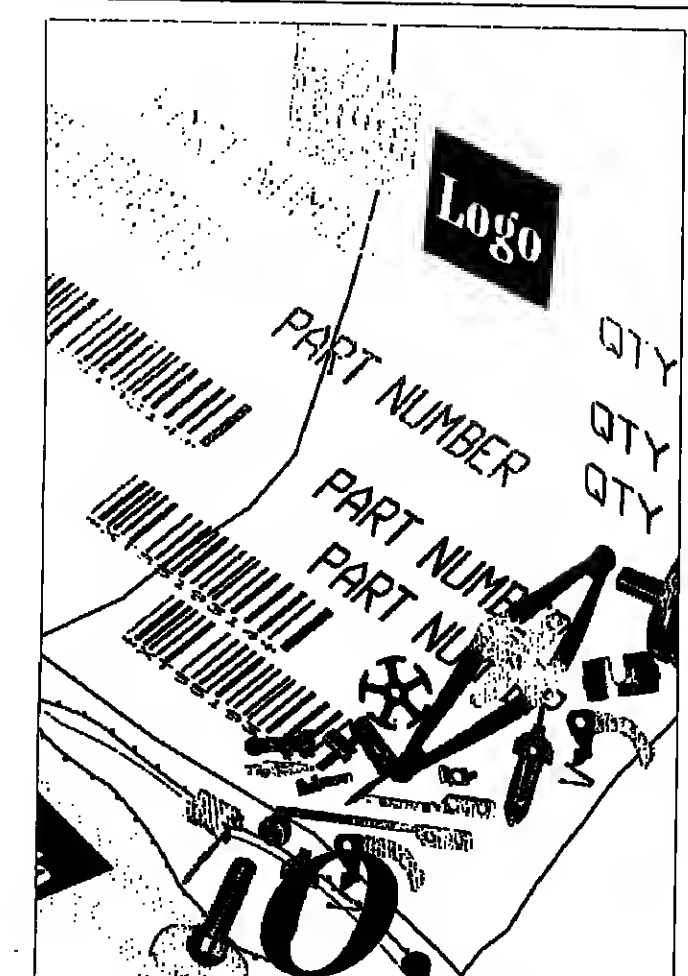
For further information K9 114 Call for details 0839 772288

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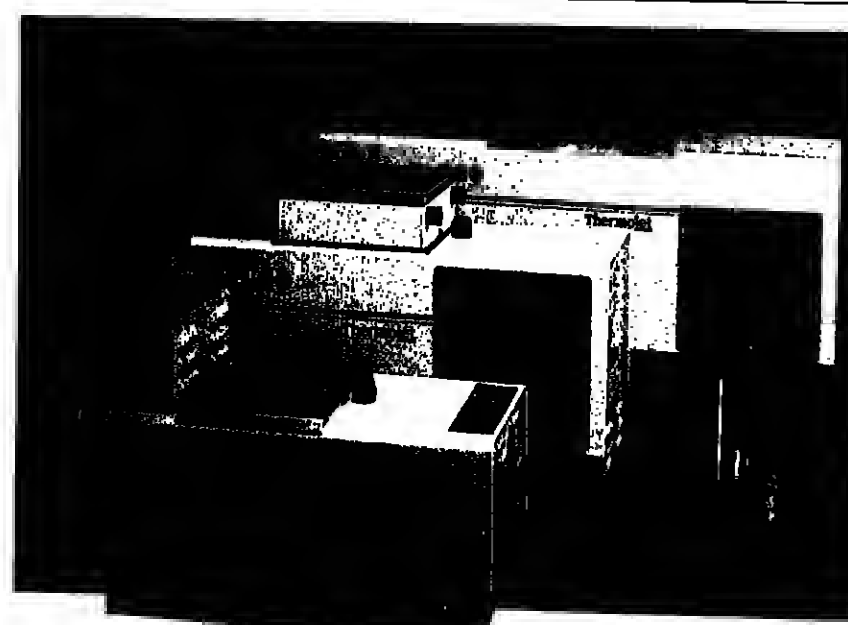
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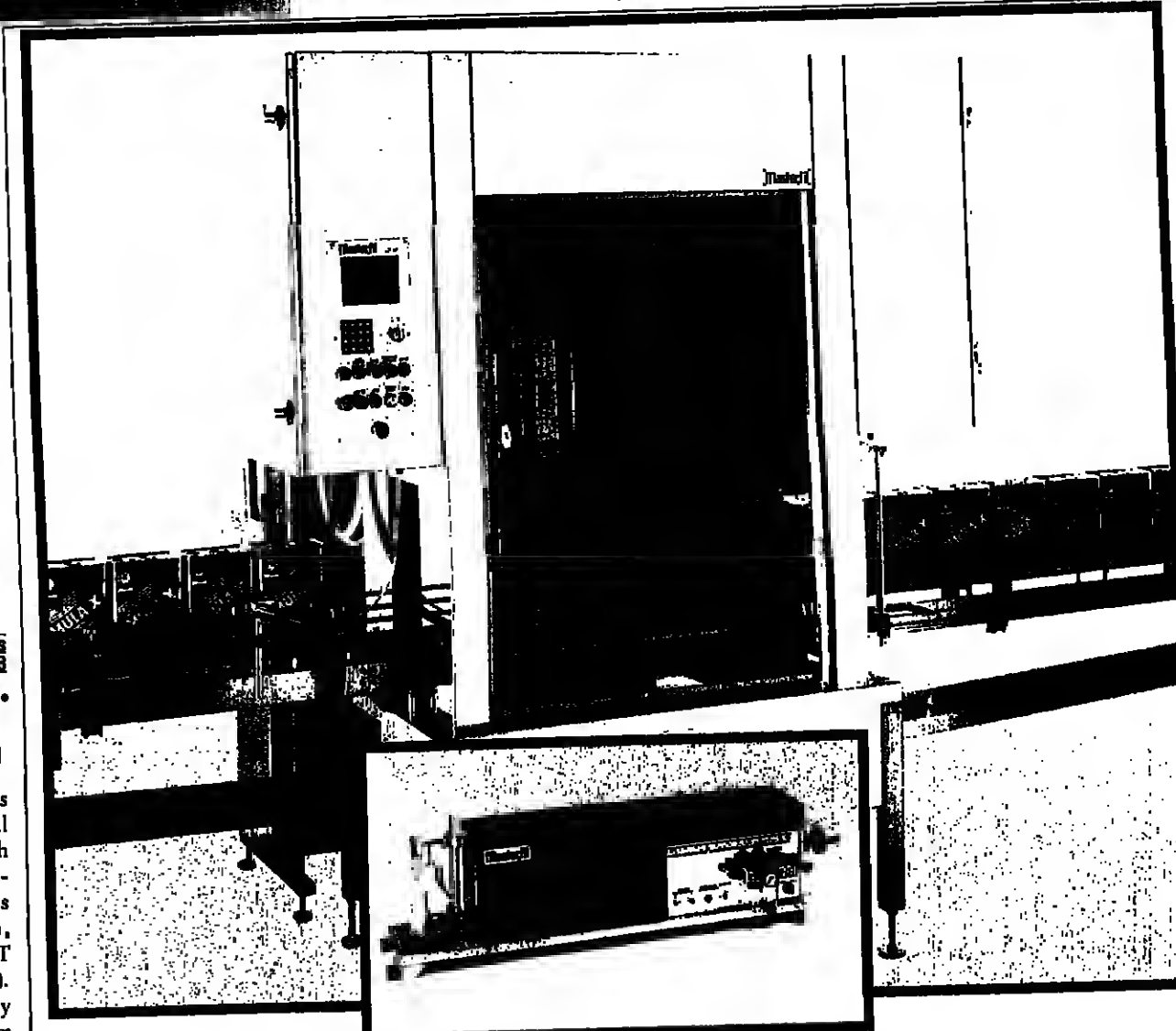
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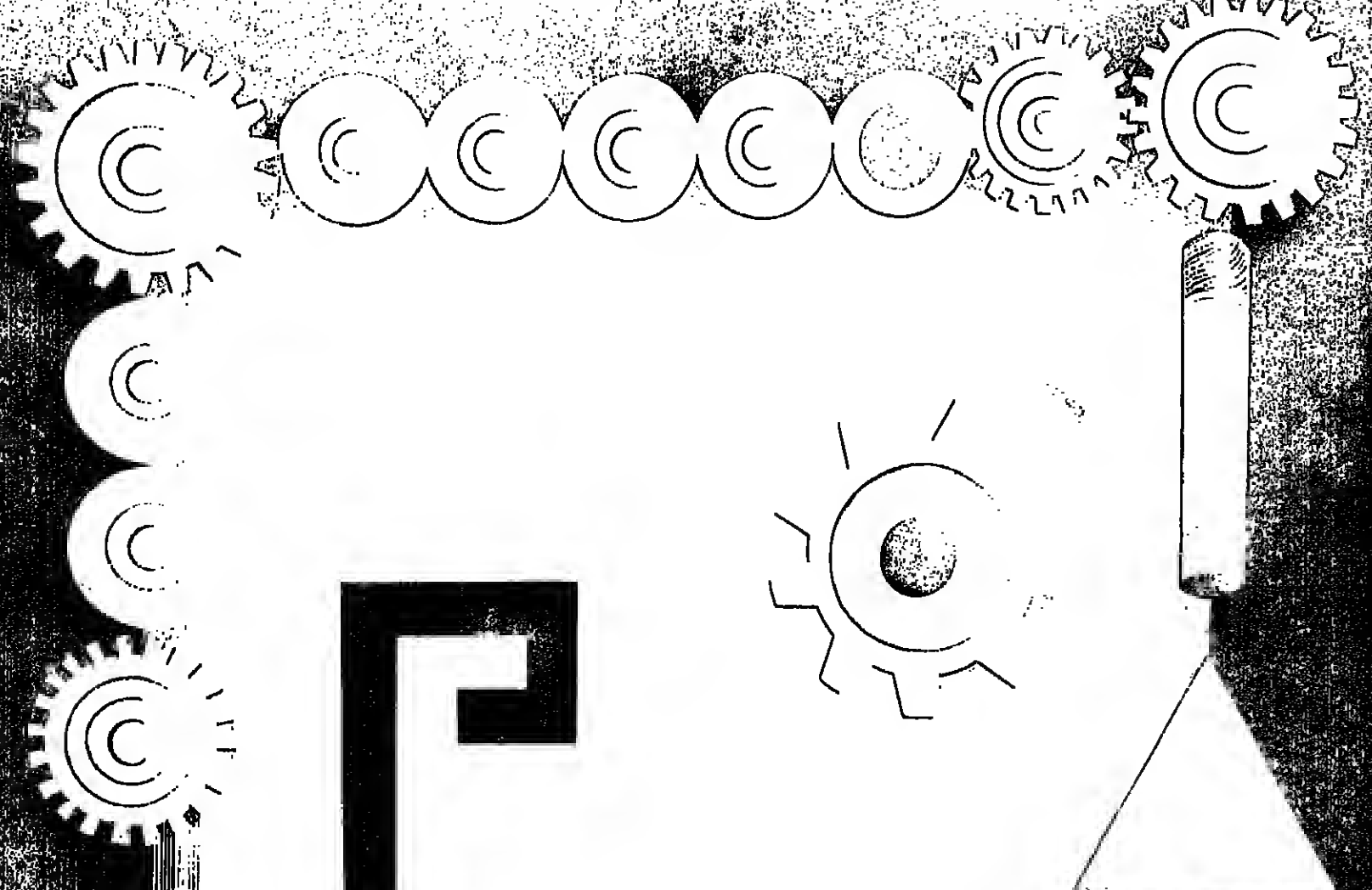
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A high speed vertical bagger from Italian company Simionato will be exhibited for the first time in the UK by agent Notem Packaging Technology. Size changes can be made quickly and without tools on the H56, which can produce pillow packs up to 300mm wide and 530mm long. Speeds can be up to 130 packs a minute. Up to 100 different products can be held in the machine's memory, so that all machine settings including bag length, print registration, sealing jaw temperature and dwell time can be instantly recalled, or altered via the vdu screen. There is good access to the

Compact wrapper suits diy

A compact form fill seal wrapper, the Shanklin CF3, will be shown by Wrapid Packaging Systems Ltd. It can handle even wider and higher single or multipack sizes than earlier models which makes it suitable for random length products, in particular for the diy industry. Operating at speeds of up

to 30 packs a minute the wrapper is designed to incorporate easy changeover, says Wrapid (250 Thornton Road, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD1 2LB - tel: 0274 722920, fax: 736195). Since the machine uses a continuous side sealer, product length is not limited by the length of a sealing jaw, which minimises film usage.

Shanklin's latest multipacking infeed with the F5B fully automatic horizontal ffs wrapper with speeds of up to 75 packs a minute will be on the stand. The multipacking infeed allows irregular shapes to be handled.

Stand: 5650
For further information call 0839 772268



Use of EDL stretchwrapping technology gives a tighter pack

Stretch and shrink for ice cream tubs

A stretchwrapping and shrink tunnel combination on its way to ice cream manufacturer Ben & Jerry's in the USA will feature on the stand of EDL (Packaging Engineers) Ltd.

Consisting of a stainless steel flight bar stretch wrapping machine, a perforator and low energy shrink tunnel, the system has to operate in temperatures as low as -10deg C. EDL has worked with Ben & Jerry's to solve problems associated with the shape of the tubs, the unsuitability of more powerful

shrink tunnels and the need to be able to split collations.

Use of its stretchwrapping technology gives a tighter pack, says EDL (Upcott Ave, Pottington Industrial Estate, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 1NE - tel: 0271 45351, fax: 72880), and means that a low energy heat tunnel is adequate. This is also less prejudicial to the chilled environment. The system will achieve 15-20 collations a minute.

Stand: 1400
For further information call 0839 772268

PPMA PREVIEW

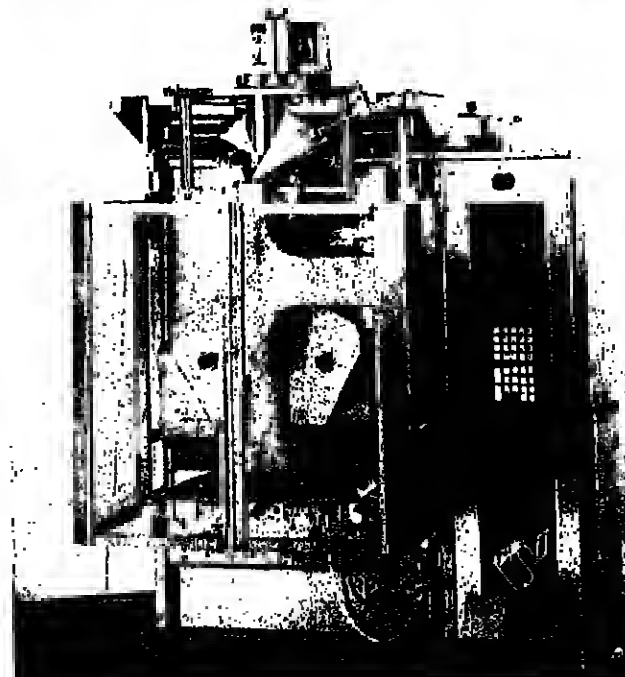
Advanced vertical bagging

machine for substituting the forming tube or changing film. "The electronics of the H56 are particularly advanced," says Noel Kelly at Notem. "Apart from controlling all machine functions, they provide full diagnostics for fault finding." This is linked to a 'talking' warning system. Dosing systems to complement the H56 include Simionato's own series of pneumatic or servo-operated multihead weighers.

Also shown by Notem (Millshaw Park Avenue, Leeds LS11 0LR - tel: 0532 779504, fax: 760557) will be the Mach 200 flow wrapper from Otem. The electronically controlled wide-width machine can wrap up to 160 products a minute.

Products up to 400 x 400 x 100mm high can be wrapped on the 200. The machine is all stainless steel in construction. Up to 50 different product settings can be held in memory.

Stand: 1180
For further information call 0839 772268



Simionato's H56 vertical bagger: particularly advanced electronics

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Seal and wrap hygiene



Integra map machine from the Flowpak range: all stainless steel

Vertiflow, a range of vertical ffs machines, and two Flowpak horizontal ffs wrappers, form part of the machinery to be shown by Rose Forgrove and other divisions of the Howden Packaging Equipment group.

Vertiflow can offer micro-processor controlled packaging

for frozen foods, granular, liquid or semi-viscous products along with pharmaceuticals and hardware.

Four machines are offered, with outputs of up to 100 a minute and ranging from a simple, mechanically controlled model to machines

capable of full integration with turnkey systems.

Vertiflow machines need less maintenance and cleaning downtime is reduced, says Howden (Kenmore Road, Wakefield, W Yorks WF2 0TU - tel: 0924 825800, fax: 825507).

The Integra map machine, from the Flowpak range, is now made completely of stainless steel, which will allow it to be used by companies in the meat and cheese industries.

Rose Forgrove will also show its Mid Range bagger, which is designed to meet a gap in the market between top of the range fully automatic machines and hand baggers.

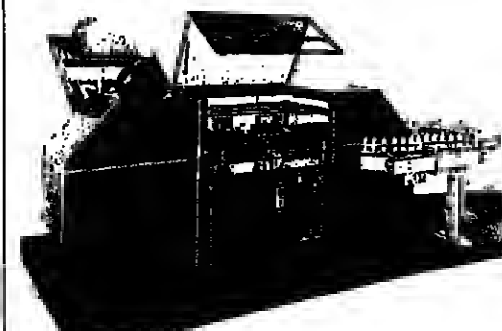
Stand: 3550, 4550, 5110
For further information K9 107 Call for details 0839 772268

Bottle feeder and conveying systems

The latest version of the Hoppmann FL-100 Linear Feeder will be on Simplimatic Engineering's stand along with its Simpli conveying systems.

Hoppmann FL-100 is designed to meet the needs of

The Hoppmann FL-100 Linear Feeder from Simplimatic



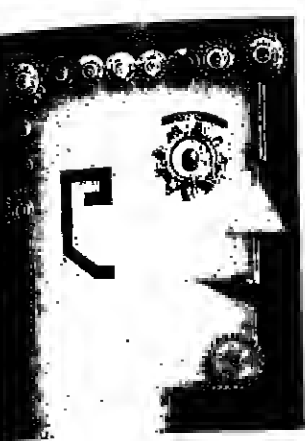
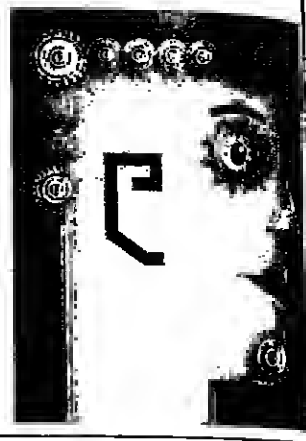
package fillers using multiple plastics bottle shapes and sizes in shorter production runs, particularly in the personal care, household products, oil packaging and lower-volume food and drinks markets.

It features fast, simple changeover in less than 15 minutes and can unscramble, orient and feed bottles ranging from 76mm to 305mm high at speeds of between 20 and 180 bottles a minute depending on the application, says

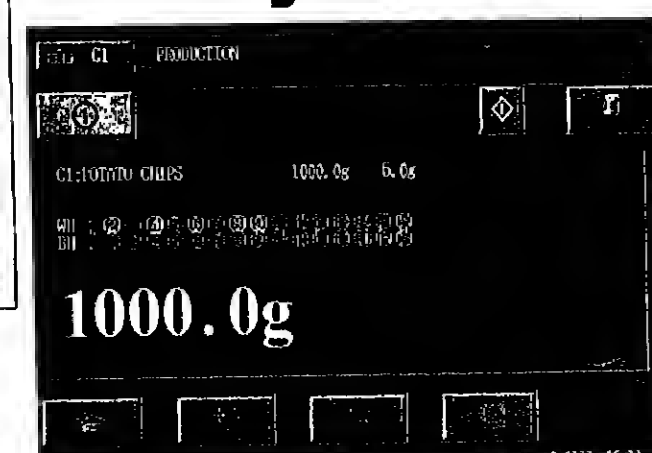
Simplimatic (Billford Road, Worcester WR3 8H - tel: 0952 454598, fax: 454823).

Operating at speeds of 5 to 100 metres a minute, the Simpli-range of conveyors are designed to handle individual items to complete pallets. It includes roller, slat, manop, belt, chain, air vacuum pressureless combiners and parallel transfer units.

Stand: 2510
For further information K9 106 Call for details 0839 772268



Friendly multihead



Ishida RZ weighers: a landscape display screen with colour option

A multihead weigher, the CCW.RZ.214, which offers improved performance, reduced downtime through simplified cleaning facilities and specially designed user friendly control systems, will be launched by Ishida Europe Ltd.

An icon driven display has been introduced for ease of operation. Progression through the various information and operation screens is made by touching the display screen.

Software has been developed which enables hopper doors to be held open while on the weigher, for easy cleaning. All hoppers and radial feeder troughs are interchangeable.

Options include a pneumatic infed chute which operates

in response to the weight of the product, says Ishida (Crystal Drive, Smethwick, Warwick, W Midlands B66 1RJ - tel: 021-541 1441, fax: 021-544 4659).

Stand: 4130
For further information K9 108 Call for details 0839 772268

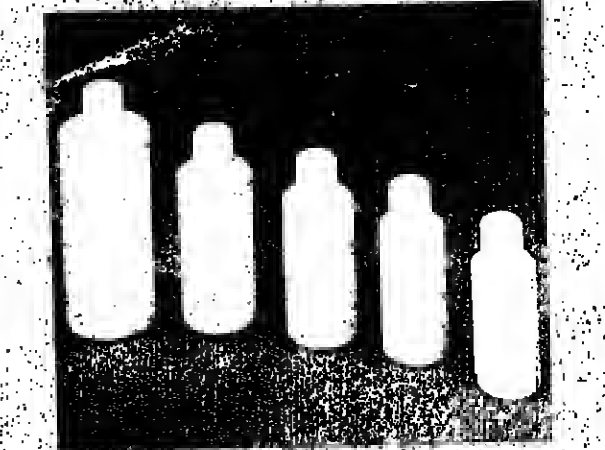
Hygienic slatband conveyor

Designed for use in ice cream plants in Europe and the USA, slatband conveyors from Gramac may be used in other food applications where hygiene is of paramount importance.

The conveyors are totally hose proof, offer clean line deal ends for safety and include raised carrying strands for cleaning in situ while the return strand is totally protected from spillage, says Gramac Mechanical Handling Ltd (Plumpton Road, Huddersdon, Herts EN11 0ED - tel: 0992 444211, fax: 446539).

Stand: 1100
For further information K9 110 Call for details 0839 772268

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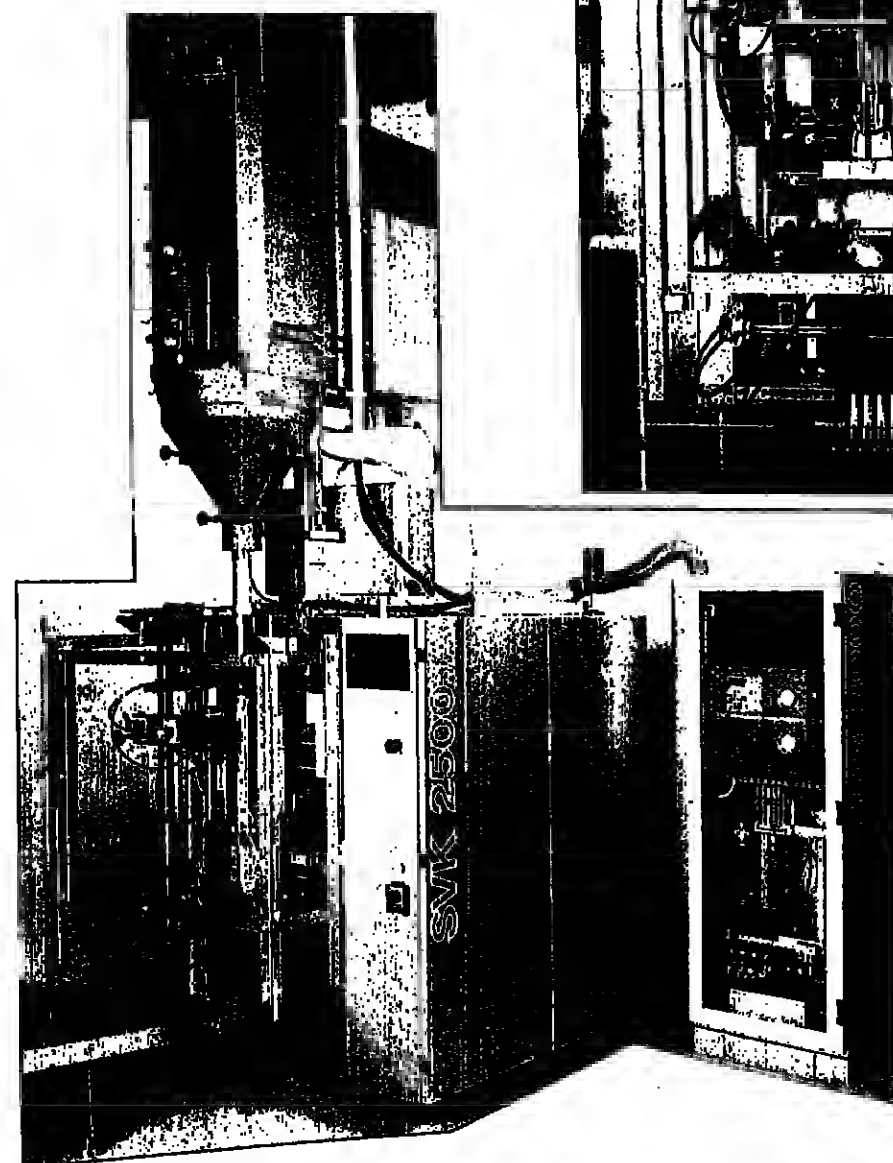
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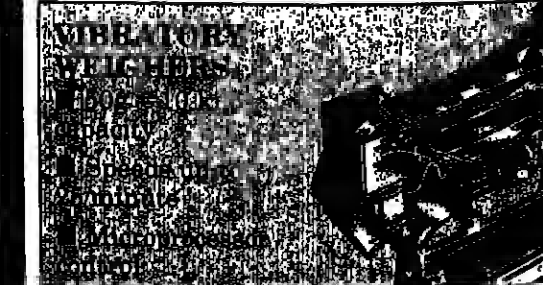
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Continuous motion sleeving unit first

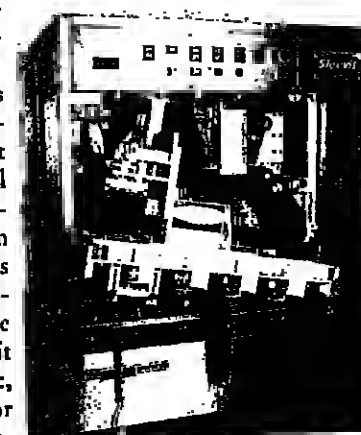
A Primary sleeve labeller, which is claimed to be the first continuous motion sleeving unit, will be unveiled by the Sleeveit division of Turpins Packaging Ltd.

Sleeveit's latest sleeving unit applies full body primary decoration sleeve labels without stopping the product, be it a plastic, glass or metal container.

Its queue and merge handling technology allows sleeve application to containers with a diameter of

20-90mm at a maximum speed of 200ppm, says Turpins (Kennedy Way, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 4AB - tel: 0255 423402, fax: 473312).

Sleeveit will also exhibit low cost tamper evident sleeve application systems designed to bring sophisticated sleeving technology within the reach of smaller manufacturers with slower production lines.



The Primary sleeve labeller unit

Stand: 120
For further information K9 109 Call for details 0839 772268

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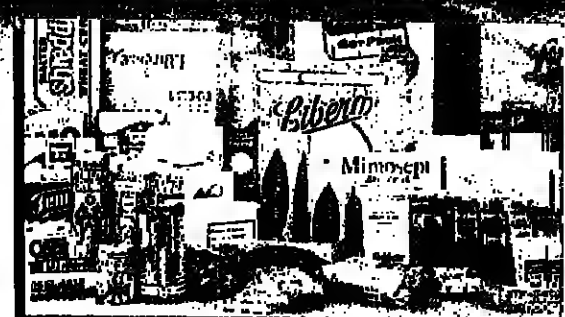
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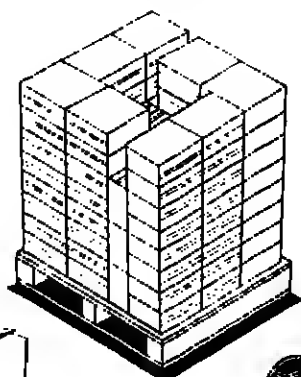
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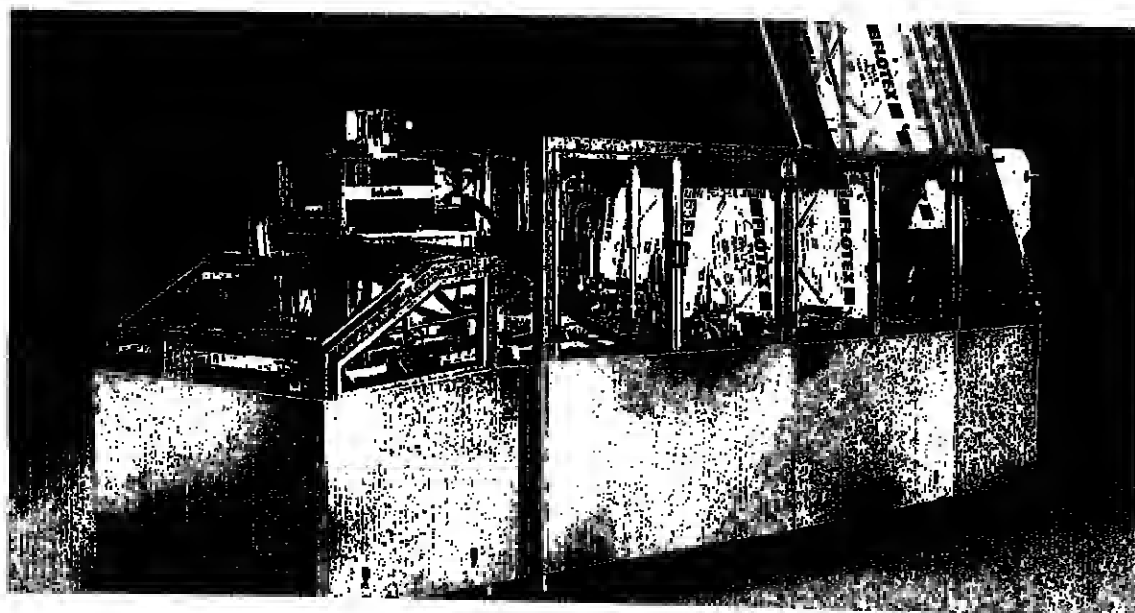


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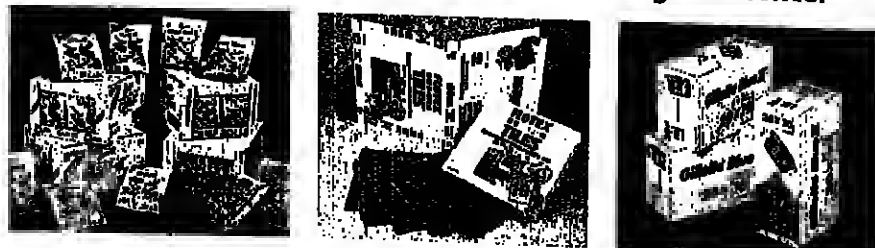
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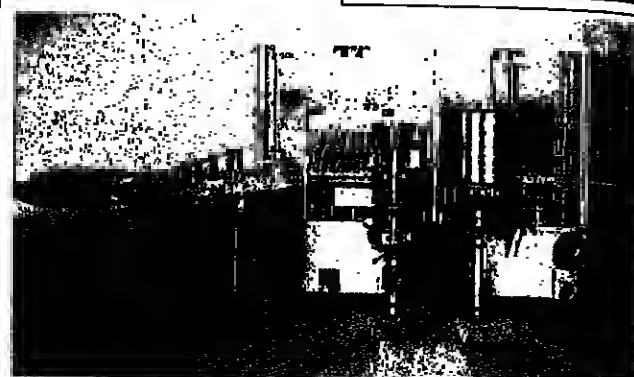
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22

PPMA

Fill and seal in sterile areas



Robert Bosch Packaging Machinery's compact MLF 3002

Filling and sealing for pharmaceuticals will be demonstrated on Robert Bosch Packaging Machinery's compact MLF 3002 for the first time in the UK.

Suitable for installation in sterile areas or for total isolator technology, the MLF 3002 uses a linear construction to fill and seal vials and small containers between 0.5 and 100ml at speeds of up to 120 a minute.

Applications include the insertion of rubber stoppers, drop applicators and/or spray pumps, aluminium overseal capping and screw capping. For ease of size change, clip-on size parts are featured and changeover is automatic. In-line filling uses the established 3-piece pump system from Bosch (Invincible Road, Farnborough, Hants GU14 7QU - tel: 0252 517821, fax: 518478).

Also having its UK debut is the CUK 3070 continuous motion cartoner. This will work at speeds up to 160 car-

tons a minute, and will be shown cartoning trays of biscuits. Carton dimensions range from 34 x 15 x 64mm to 150 x 60 x 260mm.

"For thinner cartons"

There is a range of infed, closing, printing, checking and closing options and, says Bosch, even thinner recycled board cartons can be handled. The cartoner will be shown in combination with the RWE 3000 A checkweigher, featuring a fast-acting compensation cell and microprocessor control.

Biscuits in stand-up bags will be shown packed on the high-speed Transwrap SYK 2500 A machine, which will bag product at up to 160 packs a minute.

Stand: 3500

For further information K9 123 Call for details 0838 772288

Robot with racetrack infeed

A first showing of the ER30 robot together with racetrack product infeed is planned for the Cermex stand, with the system reaching speeds of up to 600 individual flowpacks a minute.

Flowpacks, multipacks of biscuits, bags of confectionery, blister packs and a variety of plastics and glass bottles are all currently being successfully packed using this robot, says Cermex, with appropriate infeds. Advantages of the sys-

tem include its ability to handle otherwise difficult product shapes and flexibility between products. Size change is easy and quick, says the company (PO Box 12, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 6EF - tel: 0480 455919, fax: 451520).

Also on the stand will be an automatic side loading casepacker said to be ideal for slower running lines demanding automation, where floor space is limited. The plc control can be linked to a central management information system.

Case erectors, a variety of casepackers, tray erectors and packers including wraparound traypackers, ladders and palletisers will all be featured.

Stand: 1030

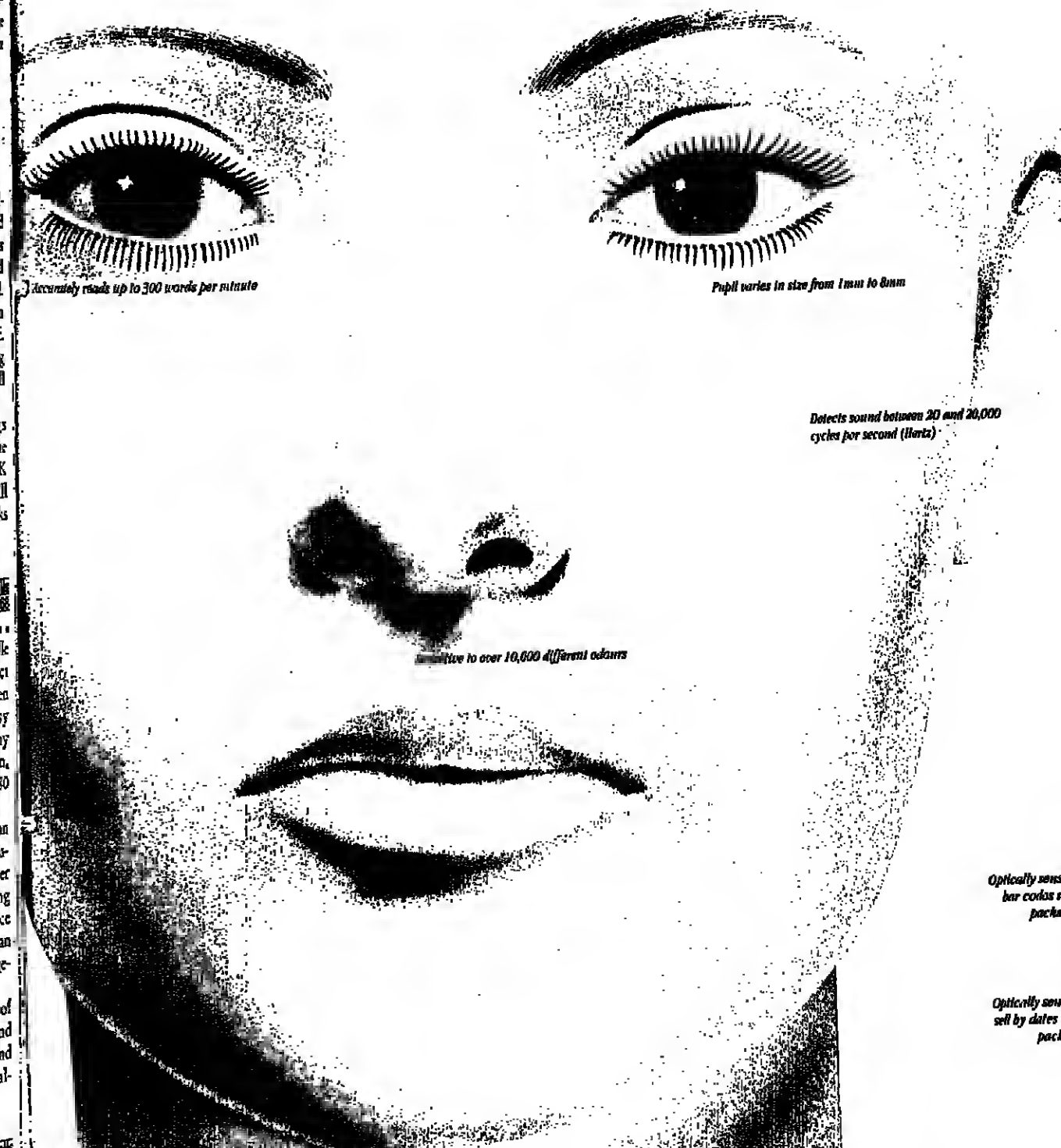
For further information K9 124 Call for details 0838 772288

PPMA BRIEFS

SHRINK SYSTEMS from Italian manufacturer Italtipack, including the "Eco" low energy consumption hood-type system for the first time in the UK - will be shown by Sontex Machinery Ltd (0274 872299), along with sleeve wrapping and skin and blister systems. In conjunction with principal John Quinn (Packaging), Stand: 220

AMONG EQUIPMENT on the Adpak stand will be a range of flowwrap systems including features such as elast conveyors and prelabelling and hole punching of materials. Machinery from Italian manufacturer Montpak, for which Adpak (0282 426848) is the exclusive UK distributor, will also be running. Stand: 812.

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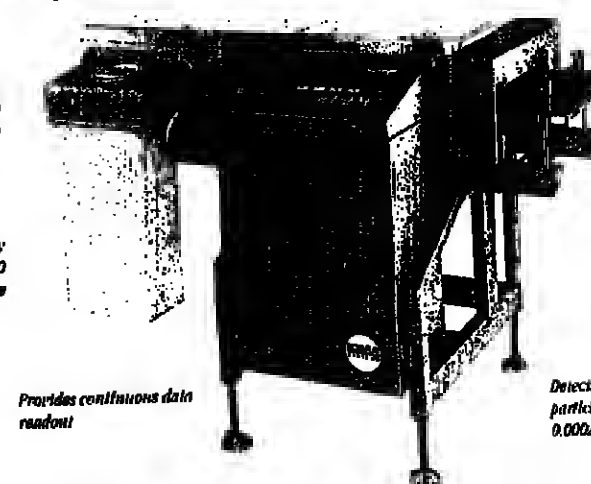
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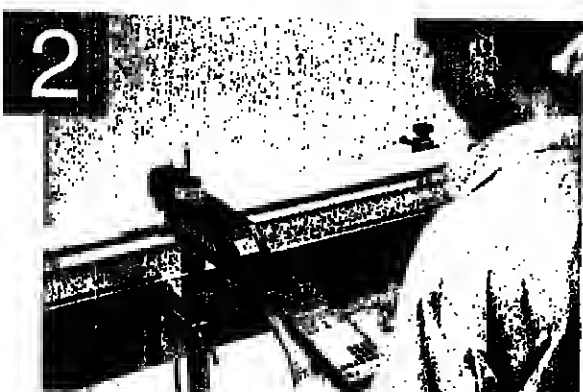
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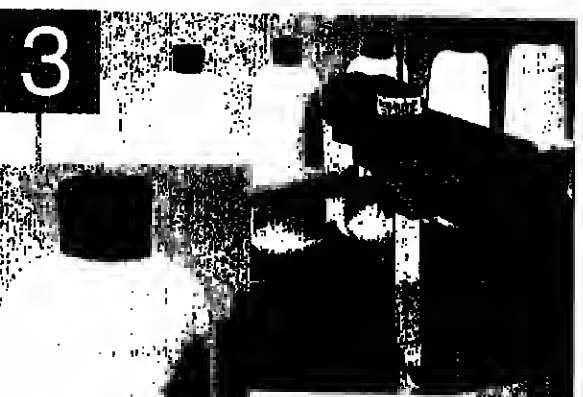
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24

PPMA PREVIEW

Less film, tighter wrap

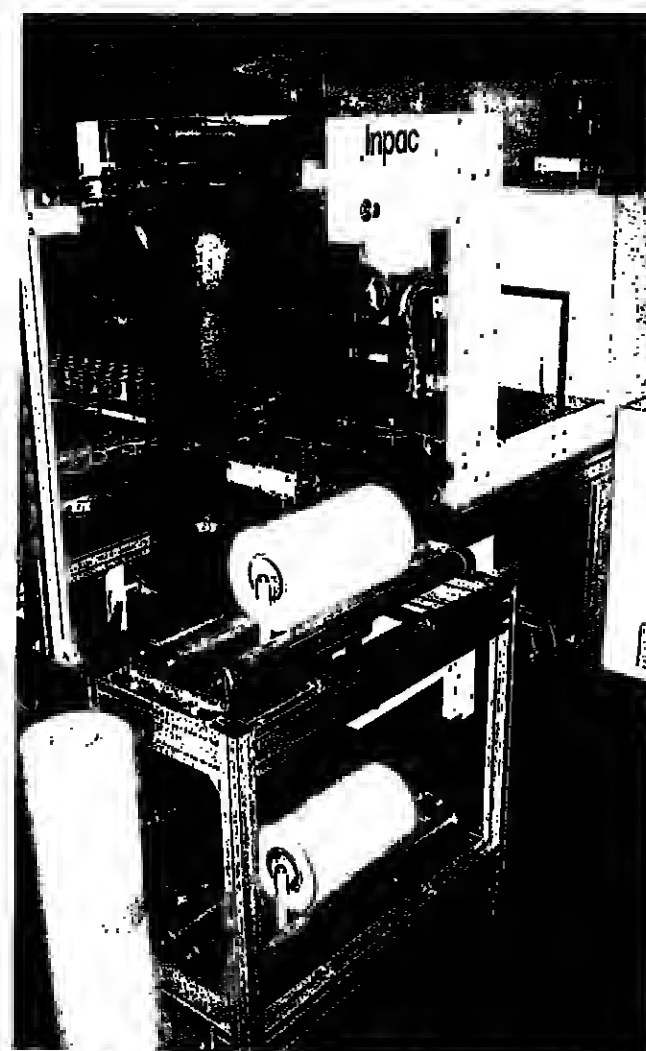
Shown for the first time by Newtec UK Ltd will be a stretch/shrink tightwrapper addition to the Inpac range, along with the Octopus Genesis pallet ring stretchwrapper at its first UK exhibition.

Replacing an earlier, less efficient machine, the intermittent motion Supa Nova uses less film to produce a tighter pack when the tightwrap module is used. While the machine can run faster, at up to 30 multipacks a minute, airflow in the tunnel means that it is 40 per cent more efficient.

Pneumatics were worked on with Festo, and the machine can provide a soft start/stop for delicate product. The sealing elements are integrated into the jaw to give an "almost invisible" weld, says Newtec.

The high capacity model of the Octopus stretchwrapper - Haloila's Genius - will wrap up to 80 pallets an hour with a top sheet and 120 without, says Newtec (Unit 4, Great West Trading Estate, Great West Road, Brentford, Middx TW8 9DN - tel: 081-758 9000, fax: 081-847 3613).

Stand: 3610
For further information K9 110 Call for details 0839 772288



Newtec UK Ltd's Inpac Supa Nova tightwrapper in a prototype model

Overwrapper collates with kraft

An overwrapper developed in Germany to replace shrink or stretch film with kraft paper for collations of cartons, so providing a mono-material pack for distribution, is being launched by Sussex & Berkshire Machinery at the show.

The Paper Bandroll PP6-54 machine can operate either with trays of cartons, or, with the addition of a standard collating station, accept packs direct from the carton.

Trays or unsupported cartons

are moved forward through a curtain of kraft paper which is drawn tightly round and sealed at the back, close to the base, with hot melt adhesive.

The paper overwrap can be in the form of a simple sleeve or, via a further fold tuck and gluing station can be finished into an envelope fold at the side, so providing a fully enclosed distribution pack. It operates at up to 15 packs a minute.

Also shown for the first time by S&B (Blacknest,

Alton, Hants GU34 4PX - tel: 0420 22669, fax: 22687) is the Idealtecnic TFI thermoformer for food packaging.

In addition, S&B will be staging the first UK demonstration of the BPR Blisterpac machine, developed specially by German manufacturer IWK to handle all types of thermoformable plastics including pp, as well as cold formed aluminium.

Stand: 3000
For further information K9 119 Call for details 0839 772288

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High speed robot arm palletiser

A range of fast robot arm palletisers will be introduced by Morray Engineering along with a high speed sewing head for use by food packers.

The Fuji AC palletiser, distributed by Morray in the UK, is said to take up the same space as the Fuji Ace, also from Fuji Yusoki in Japan, but will work at almost twice the rate. The range is now more extensive than any comparable range in the UK, says Morray.

Capable of palletising or depalletising up to 1100 units an hour, the AC includes upgraded servo motors and smoother operating robotics. A job changeover can be programmed at the touch of a button. Bags or boxes of up to 200kg can be placed with an accuracy of up to 1mm.

The competitive price tag also brings robot arm palletising within the range of many companies up to now using alternative methods, says Morray (New Walthambury House, Anglia Way, Braintree, Essex CM7 6RG - tel: 0376 322722, fax: 323177).

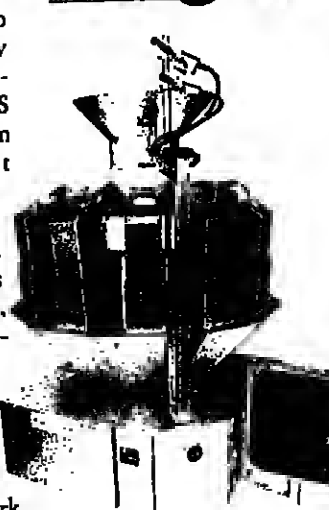
Sewing speeds of up to 25m a minute are possible with the DS-9 Newling head.

Stand: 3820
For further information K9 120 Call for details 0839 772288

A choice of heads

One of the machines to be displayed by Ward Becker Systems Ltd is the MM1212S Compact Multthead. On show for the first time, it offers the option of 10, 12 or 14 heads and embodies many features borrowed from its larger multithreads such as long life pneumatics, IP 5 protection and all-stainless steel construction.

It also includes features such as pressurised heated weigh head assemblies, integral electronics, lift off contact parts enclosed body work design, pe product control flaps and a compact size.



MM1212S Compact Multthead

Odour-free coding

The latest range of continuous inkjet printers and inks will be exhibited by Linx Printing Technologies plc at the show.

In operation will be the Linx 6000 and 4200 printers. The company says they are particularly suited to fast moving production lines and are capable of printing up to five lines of print and characters of 0.8mm to 25mm in near letter quality at up to 6.8m a second.

Linx (Burrell Road, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17

4LE - tel: 0480 300 755, fax: 495093) says it will also be showing its quick drying Linx Marque 301 ink. It is MEK-free to prevent the risk of odours tainting food or pharmaceutical products.

In addition, it will demonstrate a specially developed yellow MEK ink for applications where print is required on a dark surface.

Stand: 3140
For further information K9 122 Call for details 0839 772288

PPMA BRIEFS

FLEXLINK, the plastic chain conveyor systems marketed in the UK by SKF Automation Systems Ltd will be at the show. Available for the first time will be a brand new catalogue for Automation Components, examples of XW wide chain conveyor and the latest series C conveyor for use in dusty or wet environments, says SKF (tel: 0908 210222, fax: 818717). Stand: 2168

UNITED PACKAGING PLC will be exhibiting its Pal Wrapper 3000 turntable wrapper featuring the OptiMiser PPS fully variable power pre-stretch system. In addition, the Rotapac reel Over-wrapper for wrapping reels of converted film at beach height will be shown, says United (tel: 0274 862618, fax: 851020). Stand: 8020

AVERY DENNISON'S range of fully automatic labelling systems will be presented at the show, including the Rotary 350. Also available will be an ALS 200 Mainline Labelling System. Ideal for short production runs

and frequent changeover of products, says Avery Dennison (tel: 0628 8696800, fax: 869688). Stand: 2580

PRESTEX LTD will show its range of coding and labelling equipment, including its Smart-Date thermal transfer overprinter. Also on display will be the Cimjet and Cimpak print and apply labellers for traded units and pellets, says Prestex (tel: 0602 253220, fax: 430163). Stand: 4180

CINTEX LTD will demonstrate recent developments in its range of metal detectors and checkweighers. Latest digital electronics controlling the company's metal detectors will be displayed. Also on show will be CinTex's (tel: 0753 885281, fax: 848148) new automatic Soft-Test System for use on inaccessible fire detectors. In addition, checkweighing systems for products weighing from a few grams to 50kg will be shown. Stand: 4300

25

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Paperboard seminar and mill investment

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of its operation in the UK, Iggesund Board Sales Ltd is hosting a seminar on 13 October entitled 'Paperboard 2019 - the next 25 years'.

At the same time, parent company MoDo has announced a major capital investment programme for the Iggesund Bruk mill, an extension to Iggesund's range of textured paperboards, and the launch of a new paperboard for the tobacco sector, to meet industry demand for high performance but low bulk packaging materials.

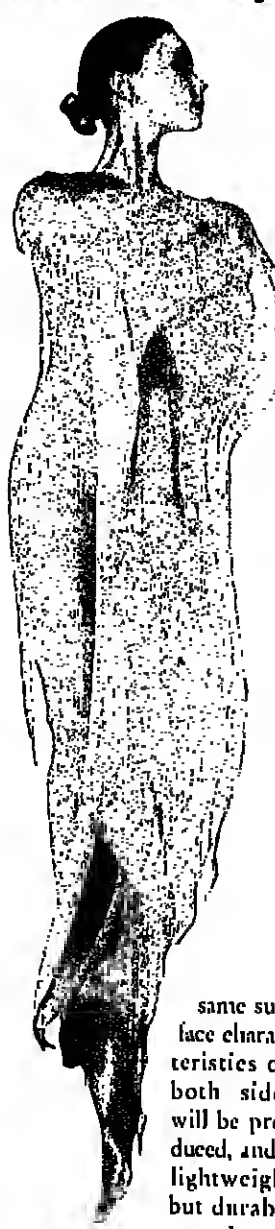
The £56 million spend in Sweden will involve rebuilding the KM2 board machine, modernising the finishing department and the creation of a fully automated finished products warehouse. The project is expected to be completed by the end of next year.

Five key objectives are behind the latest investment. To improve the quality of current products, to introduce new ones, to increase production capacity, to improve the distribution service and to reduce costs.

Up to five layers of coating will be produced on the re-built machine - an industry first, says the company (UK: Sunningdale House, 47 Caldecotte Lake Drive, Caldecotte, Milton Keynes MK7 8LF - tel: 0908 640123, fax: 640202). The investment will also take the company into the super-glazed sector of the market, Iggesund Bruk having long been a producer of matt quality paperboard.

Equal-sided paperboard will be another development area where boards with the

A Touch of Silk: launch image



same surface characteristics on both sides will be produced, and a lightweight but durable product

where cost is important, will also become available. The project will increase the mill capacity by 50,000 tonnes to 310,000 tonnes a year. This will bring the group's capacity as a whole to

around 500,000 tonnes, of which 190,000 can be produced at Workington.

Tabac-Silkia is the name of the new board, which will be launched at the Tabexpo exhibition in October, following a pan-European promotional campaign entitled 'A touch of silk'. It is said to extend the company's range of tailor-made virgin fibre boards for the tobacco market.

Produced at the Workington mill in Cumbria, the folding box board combines a low 200gsm grammage with a silky smooth printer surface and high bulk construction. The result is a durable product which provides high quality print results while offering considerable cost and material savings.

Tabac-Silkia is the result of joint development work with the tobacco industry. "The growth area is hard packs," says Carlo Einarsson, business area manager at Iggesund Paperboard, "but the overriding concern within the industry is to downgrade the packaging materials while maintaining performance and presentation quality."

The extension to the effects available in the textured paperboard range - called Grass and Sand - are now available on Invercote solid bleached board and on Graphique-Silkia, the new high bulk, multi layer box board for covers and cards.

Applications to attend the Paperboard 2019 seminar, for which entrance is by ticket only, should be made direct to the company.

For further information K9-139 Call for details 0839 772268

Quality adhesion for chilled wines

Lakewood Vineyard & Winery in the USA has chosen Spear reverse printed labels for its Sauvignon and Bordeaux wines because of their resistance to the chill cabinet and ice bucket environments where the label conserves its quality appearance and adheres to the bottle.

The labels have won the company a number of packaging awards this year. In addition, Budweiser Ice Draft turned to US Labelling company Spear (European agent, Margaret Jorcin, 11 Square Victor Grignard, 77410 Claye Souilly, France - tel: 010 33 1 60 26 19 62, fax: 60 27 08 99) for cost-effective no-look labelling.

Spear was initially required to supply 500 million label sets at short notice for the producer's launch. The product reached the top 10 in its first full week of national distribution and a 2.4 per cent share of beer sales in the USA.

Spear recently supplied United Glass in the UK with no-look labelling machinery,



Spear reverse printed labels on a Lakewood chilled wine bottle

making it the first UK glass container manufacturer to offer this service (see Packaging News April).

For further information K9-139 Call for details 0839 772268

Flashing metallic hairspray cans

A relaunch of hairspray in triplate aerosol cans with striking graphics has led to a leap in sales for Finnish cosmetics and toiletries company Berner Oy. Berner wanted a younger appeal for its XZ range of three hair products, and went to its sole supplier CarnaudMetalbox (CMB) Aerosols (UK) plc for a solution. The answer was a combination of metallic flashes and coloured panels on a pearlescent white background.

The cans incorporate Ferrolite dyes, with the body in a metal/polymer laminate. Printing was carried out offset litho in 12 colours to make the most of the reflective surface. The Normal, Fast and Extra Fast variants are packed in 250ml cans.

Shelf impact is maximised, while the three variants in the range are differentiated by means of the coloured panels.

The laminate does not use voids in its manufacture, stresses CMB, avoiding the need for coating in the can-making process. The material is much more resistant to scuffing than conventional coated cans, says CMB (Oddicott Lane, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottingham NG17 5FS - tel: 01623 555555, fax: 440125).

In the six months following the relaunch, research has shown that the hair products shifted from eighth to fourth position in Finland in terms of unit sales. The company has a range of products from shampoos to styling aids. CMB



Hairspray cans by CMB Aerosols: laminate is resistant to scuffing

Aerosols is currently working on converting the majority of the aerosols it produces to

using Ferrolite can dyes. For further information K9-141 Call for details 0839 772268

On board for a successful sea event

Latest in the list of industry suppliers to sign up for participation in the Packaging Focus Sea Princess event later this month are Smurfit UK, SCA Packaging, Polbeth Packaging and Marchmont Packaging.

Running from 22 to 25 September, the event has already attracted over 200 delegates, with 17 exhibitors. Over the two days and three nights at sea, delegates will be able to plan their own balance of business meetings, conference and workshop sessions, says organiser Richmond Events (London House, 243-253 Lower Mortlake Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2LS - tel: 081-332

2422, fax: 081-332 0939).

"We are looking forward to presenting our various companies' products to the key buyers who will be on board," says David Ausin, executive vice president of Jefferson Smurfit group.

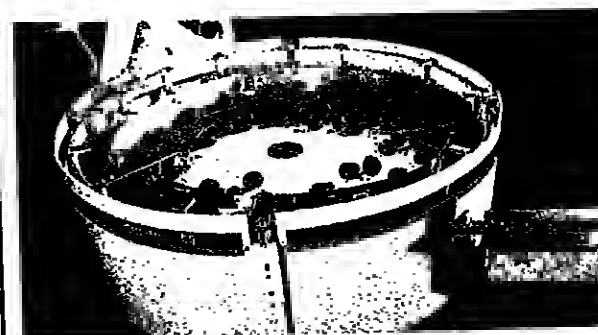
The list of exhibitors at the time of going to press was: CMB Foodcan division, Data Colour, Fuji Seal, ICI Melines, Lawson Mardon Plastics, Lawson Mardon Fibrenyle, Marchmont, Polbeth, Pira, PP Payne, SCA, Smurfit, the IOP, TNT Materials Handling, Tugate Firms and Labels, Van Mierlo Proost, Walmsley.

Keynote presentations include overviews of the industry, consumer packaging, costs and benefits of environmentalism. Workshop sessions will include analysis of price trends for the different materials.

For further information K9-142 Call for details 0839 772268

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PN 21

NEWS

Closure opens more easily

PP28 Clic-Loc is a tamper evident, child resistant closure (erc) which will be available in the last quarter of this year, and is the result of a combination of technologies from two CanaudMetalbox companies.

The closure features existing Clic-Loc technology from United Closures & Plastics (UCP) plus the addition of sister CanaudMetalbox company Astra Plastique's Vistop tamper evident band concept.

To meet the needs of the pharmaceutical and health-care markets which require both features, the closure will suit the PP28 (GF304) neck finish which is the most widely used throughout Europe, and will be approved to BSEN 28317 (1993).

UCP has included design recommendations to improve operability for adults, including increasing the depth of the closure to improve patients' grip. The closure is also said to benefit from patented erc technology developed for Clic-Loc III, which aids opening.



PP28 Clic-Loc is a tamper evident and child resistant closure

Loc mechanism has been increased, while the inner and outer Clic-Loc components resist product ingress, says the company (Salhouse Road, Norwich NR7 9AL - tel: 0603 423131, fax: 407942).

The PP28 Clic-Loc is suited for use on liquid medicine products where ercs will become mandatory in stages from January 1, 1995. To prevent caps 'sticking', the height of the castellations on the Clic-Loc

For further information K9 149 0839 772268

Purchasing challenges

A one day course which aims to identify the challenges facing the purchasing function and underline its role in sustaining competitive advantage, has been organised by The British Production and Inven-

tory Control Society (BPICS) for October 20.

Called *Getting the Best from Purchasing*, the course takes place at BPICS HQ and fees are £275 +vat for members of the Society and £325 +vat for non-members.

Registration forms are available from Julie Taylor, assistant secretary, BPICS (University of Warwick Science Park, Sir William Lyons Road, Coventry CV4 7EZ - tel: 0203 692266, fax: 692305).

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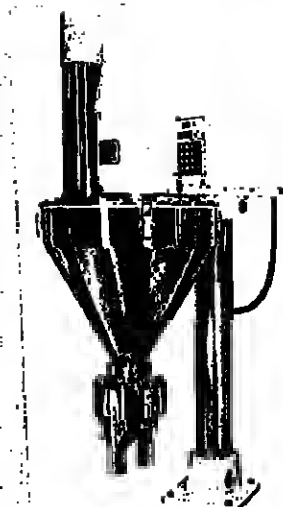
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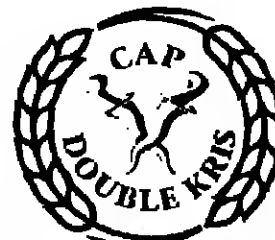
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Pitfalls and weaponry

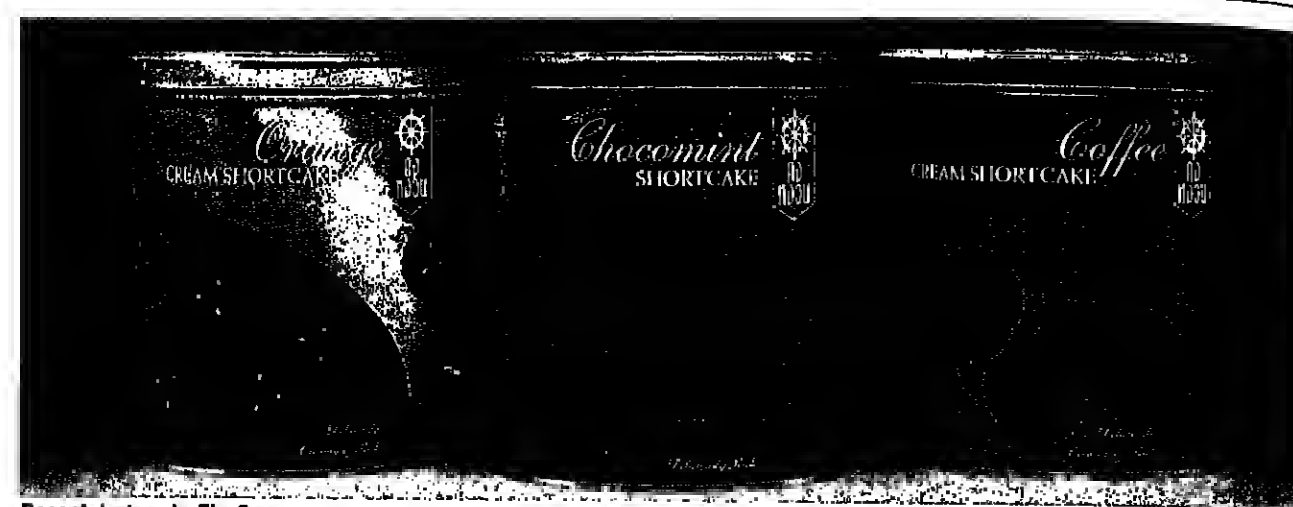
Tanks and less high-tech weaponry might seem to be the last thing that would attract a consumer to buy a bag of flour. Though the clash of supermarket trolleys may echo down the aisles, images of conflict do not usually stray onto the retailer's shelves in the West.

But in Laos, southeast Asia, such themes are popular, says Judi Green, creative director at design consultants The Green House. This sort of cultural gap, she says, is typical of the chal-



Military images succeed in Laos: this design sells flour

lenges confronting marketers and designers in the Far East.



Recent designs by The Green House for Khong Guan biscuits in Thailand where on-chef impact is a priority

and of the stimulating nature of work in these countries.

Many design consultancies are considering expanding their area of operation abroad and the

Far East is proving to be a fast emerging market for the UK. There has been a growing influx of Western brands and while these suppliers can adapt their packs to suit this market, local manufacturers have realised that often the only way to compete is to draw on the expertise of

marketing services in the West.

However, while projects can be on a grand scale - Thai biscuit manufacturer Khong Guan has just repackaged over 20 of its lines - there are numerous pitfalls for the unwary, warns Mrs Green. It is vital to appreciate the culture, business

manners and design idioms, she says, if projects are to be followed through successfully.

While colour code can carry subtle connotations in the West, in the Far East these associations can be much stronger. Black in Thailand and purple in the Philippines are associated

Huge opportunities are opening up in the Far East for design and marketing consultancies willing to take the plunge. At the same time, Western brands are finding their own routes to these consumers. The Green House consultancy has been through the steep learning curve of working with Far Eastern clients.

with bad luck to such an extent that it would be an unforgivable gaffe for a designer to even suggest their use.

Red is seen as a symbol of good fortune, and neither the manufacturer nor the consumer seems to tire of seeing it dominating packaging designs. On the other hand, imagery which is considered extreme or even shocking to Western sensibilities is often regarded as quite ordinary - and for good reason.

For instance, to return to the bag of flour from Laos, the symbols of warfare merely reflect how the country's history of unrest has finally percolated through the public consciousness. Military images have become everyday, evoking an almost cosy sense of familiarity.

But while this unfamiliar part of the world has its own individual and entrenched traditions, it still nurtures aspirations towards Western lifestyles.

Because of this, designs which epitomise the Western can carry a premium association. This Western cachet can have such a strong pull on consumers that they are often ready to accept unintentional cultural gaffes.

For example, Cadbury's would be forgiven for using the normally taboo colour of purple simply because of the brand's international reputation and its familiar pack designs.

One of the challenges for agencies working in these countries where the traditional colour coding dominates, is the need to create points of difference without departing from that basic code of, say, red for good luck. One pressure bringing local producers to employ Western consultancies is the need to combat a scale of copy-car branding which makes the problems of UK brands pale

into insignificance.

Associations differ not only for colours but for the products themselves. Biscuits, for example, are seen as typical gifts in Thailand, suitable on occasions as diverse as visits and weddings, says Mrs Green. This accounts for the vast range of brands available, the large consumer spend and the penetration of better known European and American brands at the premium end.

For a UK consultancy, language is another hurdle to jump, and the practicalities of proof-reading text in Chinese, Thai and English for a single pack have proved so difficult for UK-based translation agencies that The Green House has

Thailand's appetite for biscuits is inexhaustible

developed its own system which directly involves the client.

On the structural design side, the Far East covers a wide span of demands which relate to the varied economies and the climatic diversity of the region. Tins are a favoured form of pack in Thailand and its neighbours, since they are robust enough to withstand more primitive types of transportation but will also perform well in the unrelenting heat and humidity.

In prosperous Japan, a country which has established an entire economy on an obsession with technology, hi-tech gimmicks have great appeal.

teaming up with local suppliers in such places as the Philippines, Thailand and Burma.

Understanding the Far Eastern 'code' and knowing when it can be broken involves a long learning curve for UK consultancies and it is a process which should not be dismissed lightly.

"There are innumerable cultural traps to fall into but this makes the challenge of designing in the Far East all the more intriguing," says Mrs Green.

The Green House is at 64 High Street, Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex HA1 3LL - tel: 081-422 6178, fax: 081-864 8370.

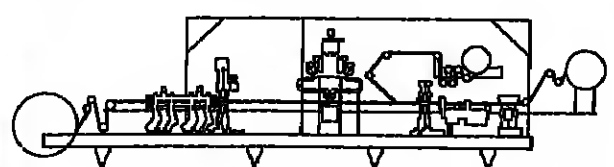
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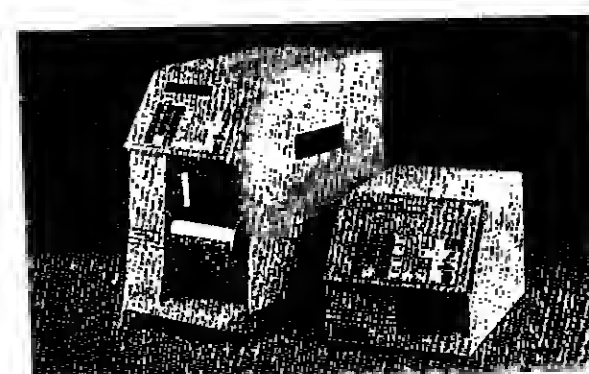


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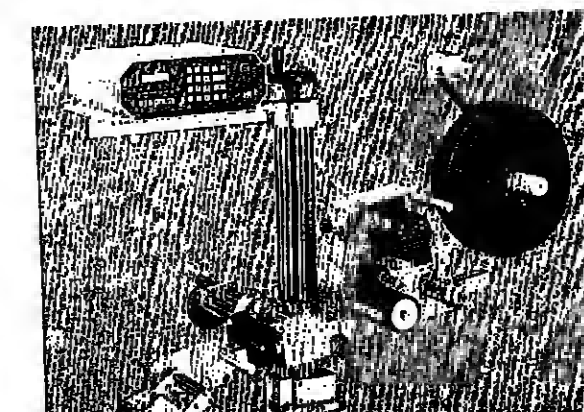


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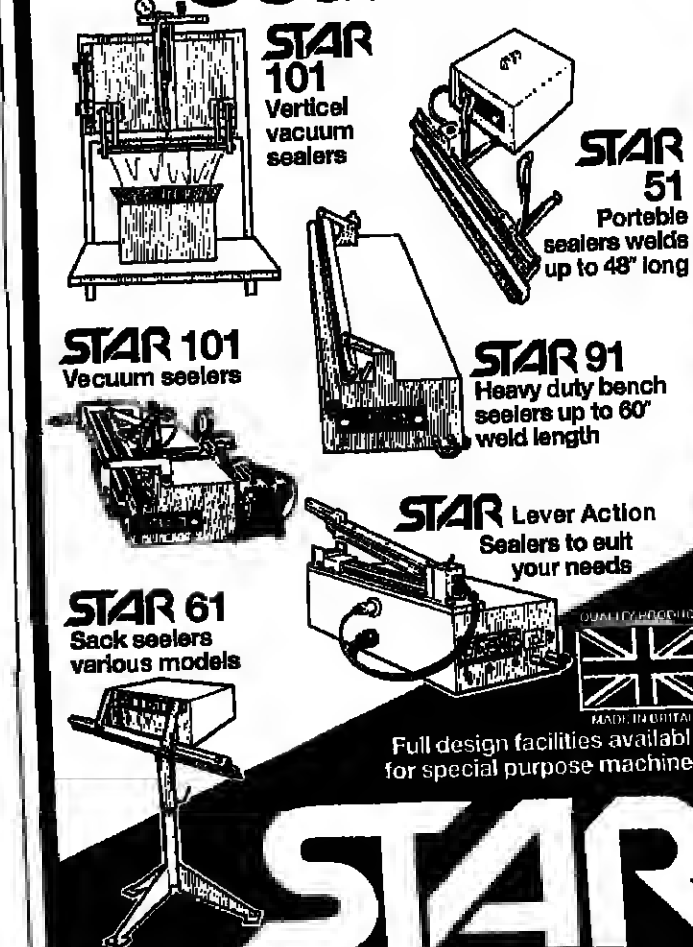
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Keynote Presentations

A strategy for the market of the 1990's

Victor Watson, President, Institute of Packaging, Former Chairman - John Waddington Plc



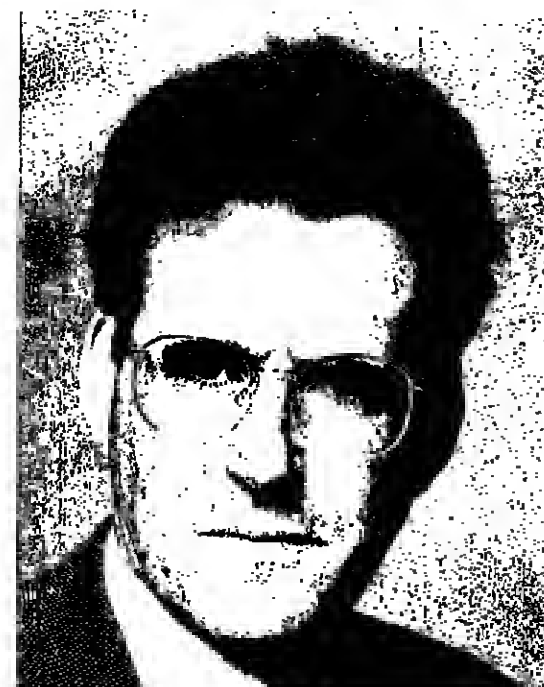
Facing the future - an insight into packaging industry trends

Brian Blunden OBE, Managing Director, Pira International plc



Partnerships - panacea and progress?

David Johnson, Business Planning Director, Lewson Mardon



Packaging for the consumer

Paul McGowan, Head of International Research, The Added Value Company



Keynote Chairman:

Gerry Townshend, President, World Packaging Organisation



How this conference faces the future

packaging focus '94, on board the P&O ship Sea Princess from the 22-25 September, is not just another conference. It's a radical, 'new-style' of Event which takes a new approach.

Unlike most conferences, the topics and speakers at packaging focus '94 have been chosen on the basis of research amongst the delegates and will as such address those strategic issues most pertinent to their futures. What's more, the Event has been structured so that delegates can select just those sessions which are of specific interest, so there'll be no time-wasting either.

It's not just the style of the conference that makes packaging focus '94 so different however. It's the ability for delegates to set their own agendas which makes it so attractive. Indeed, in addition to the conference, the packaging buyers will be able to pre-schedule one-to-one meetings with some leading suppliers and choose to attend 'think-tank' groups, where they'll have the opportunity to discuss key issues with their peers.

By gathering together so many of the UK's top packaging buyers, we aim to provide a catalytic environment where people can hear the latest industry thinking, learn of new innovations and most importantly, exchange and explore new ideas.

By taking part in such a forum, we hope that each participant will feel better equipped to face the future.

Workshops

Separate workshops will be held for different industry sectors including:

How to create innovation and benefit from technological developments in packaging

■ Food packaging
Richard Calder, Director, Interconsult Espena SL

■ Drinks packaging
John Thomson, Managing Director, Zenith International

■ OTC and pharmaceutical packaging
John Parsons, Managing Director, Slebert Head
Tony Watts, Creative Director, Slebert Head

■ Personal and household products packaging
Alan Bleke, European Packaging Development Manager, Procter and Gamble SA

The environment at minimum cost and for maximum competitive advantage

■ The plastics industry
Jim Fughi, Chief Executive, PIFA
John Simmons, Managing Director, Recoup

■ The paper and board industry
Bernard Stonestreet, Director, British Fibreboard Packaging Association

■ The glass industry
Ron Cook MBE, Former Chairman, European Union for Packaging and the Environment

■ The metals industry
Presenters: John May, Marketing Manager, British Steel Tinplate Alex Griffin, National Manager, ACRA

■ Partnerships - panacea and progress?
Alan Cooley, Consultant, PMMS Consulting Ltd

Packaging price trends

■ The plastics industry
Rowene Mills, Chairman & Chief Executive, RMA

■ The paper and board industry
Peter Ingram, Marketing Analyst, Paper and Board Digest

■ The metals industry
Rowene Mills, Chairman & Chief Executive, RMA

■ The glass industry
David Baxter, Senior Consultant, RMA

Packaging and the decision to buy
Paul Southgate, Chief Executive, Wickens Tuit Southgate

Technology in design - new horizons
Tony Bremner, Consultant, ABC

Packaging for an ageing population
Jane Moore, Project Leader, Consumer Concern, IGD
Ken Mulholland, Senior Project Leader, IGD

Further information is available from
Vicki Morison
on 081 332 2422



packaging focus '94

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George Whitelock is now deputy managing director of Howards Labels Ltd, a Tinsley Robor company. He was previously sales director at BPC Hamhal.

Thomas Ainscough joins Battenfeld Gloenco Extrusion Systems Ltd as the company's managing director. Andrew Barnes has joined as blown films sales manager responsible for the UK, France and the Benelux countries.

Richard Allen, former commercial director of Polbeth Packaging Ltd, has been made a member of the board. He takes over as managing director following Ronnie Gray's move into the role of chairman.

Stephen Bayd has been appointed managing director of the self adhesives manufacturer Samuel Jones & Co Ltd. Prior to this, he was the md of Sappi Specialities, the UK-based specialty papers company.

Barry Charpack has been made the director and general manager of St Neots-based Charpack Ltd. He will be responsible for developing the organisation and handling further expansion.

Eddie Holt and Anil Puri have joined the board of Melton Medes Ltd, the industrial group. Mr Holt, a main board director, will head up the poly-



Employment trends in at least one region - Mid-Anglia - have been improving over the last year, reports consultancy Partners in Recruitment (PIR). Government statistics give lower unemployment figures - 9.4 per cent in May - and there has been an increase in the number of positions advertised in regional and national papers.

Over the last eight months in particular, PIR (0480 493444) has seen a distinct upward trend in demand for its recruitment consultancy services across a range of market sectors. In its fourth year in business, the St. Ives-based company is currently expanding both its office space and staff numbers.

mer division and continue his existing executive capacities. Mr Puri is made a non-executive director.

David Thomas is the first Briton in 30 years to be made president of the European Federation of Corrugated Board Manufacturers (FEFCO). Mr Thomas is md of Assi Packaging in the UK.

Peter Cook and Geoffrey Woodward have been made

board directors of Allen Davies & Co Ltd, part of The Berkshire Printing Group.

Anthony Forbes is to be appointed a non-executive director of Watmoughs (Holdings) plc, the Bradford-based printing group.

Michael Thornton, chairman and chief executive of T & D Industries plc, will be handing over these responsibilities to Bert Langford, md of the

company's packaging division. Mr Thornton will continue to sit on the board.

Caroline Pickard has been made a director of Bradford based Concord Tape Solutions, the UK tape producer and converter.

Bill Lowe has been made sales and marketing director for Assi Packaging Scotland Ltd. John Skelton is now sales director for the UK market at

WATSON'S LAW

A PRECEPT FOR ALL POLITICIANS

One man's subsidy is another man's tax

La subvention de l'un représente toujours l'impôt d'autrui

Il sussidio di uno è la tassa di un'altro

Die Subvention des einen ist die Steuer des anderen

...So asserts Victor Watson, president of the IOP. "Watson's Law" has also been sent to, among others, EU commissioners and Tony Blair. Mr Watson has just been made an honorary doctor of laws at the University of Leeds. "It is a great honour, and I am appreciative of it," he tells *Packaging News*.

AssiDomän Multipack, formerly Multipack Wrap Around Systems.

Neil Posten is now sales account manager for the Castle and Valley divisions of The

London Fancy Box Company based in Dover.

Stuart Wallis, an executive director of Bowater plc, is leaving the company to become chief executive of Fisons plc.

Box waste into chip profit

Boxes and Packaging in Swindon is the first UK company to install a Repap corrugated chip machine.

Called Corruchip, the equipment is designed to turn waste into a value added product and offer an alternative to eps loose fill. It is an ideal purchase for anyone wishing to dispose of boxes, including retailers, product manufacturers as well as boxmakers.

Chips can command prices up to ten times higher than basic waste board and can be also sold for animal bedding or horticultural mulch, says machine supplier, Eurobox Machinery Ltd.

Shearer Sellars, md of Boxes and Packaging, a medium sized sheet plant whose customers are within a 4 mile

radius, tells *Packaging News* that the company generates around three 20ft containers of waste each week. Although it now receives £35 a load due to a tightening in the supply of paper, it is able to sell the chips for significantly more at £10 a bag, undercutting the price of eps loose fill in the area by 10 per cent, says the company.

"Handles strip sheet and finished boxes"

Repap handles strip sheets and finished boxes and has a maximum feed width of 400mm. Electronically controlled, there are variable speeds and three different thickness positions to

produce chips 4, 7 and 10mm wide. An optional automatic control to produce chips of three sizes in the same batch can be added to the machine.

Other options that have been included on the Boxes and Packaging machine, include a dust extractor and a magnetic extractor to remove metal stitches and staples.

Mr Sellars expects to convert many of his customers whom he currently supplies with eps loose fill to Corruchip. Within a week of installing the machine, the company has already found five customers, and trials are underway with a further 25.

Products that can be packed in Corruchip range from electronic goods to fireworks, where the Corruchip locks the



The chipping machine turns waste into a value added product

product in to the centre and does not allow it to move around like eps, it is claimed.

Output speeds vary according to the type of board used. A triple wall board can produce 20m3 an hour; double wall board at 13m3 an hour and single wall board at 8m3 an hour.

Machines are supplied in the UK by Eurobox (PO Box 16, Huddersfield HD8 9UL - tel: 0484 863368, fax: 861924) which is holding an open day on 28 September at Boxes in Swindon.

For further information call 0839 772288

Paper deal

The Jefferson Smurfit Group plc is to acquire the paper and paper packaging operations of Cellulose du Pin, part of the French Compagnie de Saint-Gobain. The deal is likely to be worth 1R£ 638.8 million, including an acquired debt of 1R£ 352.4 million.

Operations involved include 42 corrugated plants in France, Belgium and Italy.

"The Cellulose du Pin operations complement our European operations, giving us a major position in France where until now we had only modest representation," says Dr Michael Smurfit, chairman and chief executive officer of the group (Mercer House, Thames Side, Windsor, Berks SL4 1QN - tel: 0753 850451, fax: 840476).

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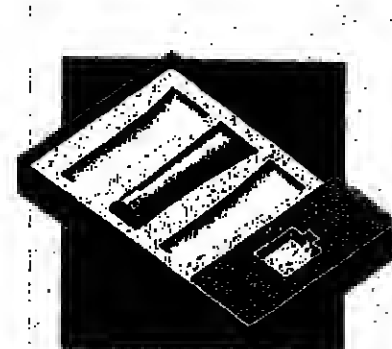
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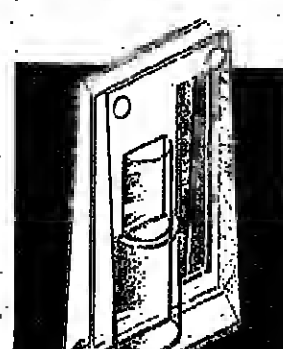
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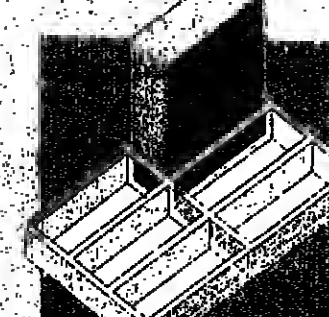
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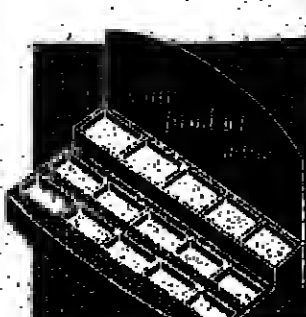
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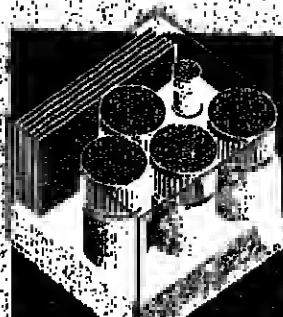
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Specialised feeder

Longford Entrepote has introduced a specialised feeder - the 3D-901 - for dispensing three dimensional products onto packaging lines.

The unit has the ability to index register, cut and automatically fire three dimensional items such as games, toys,

spice packs, sauce packs and other pouches into bags, cartons or trays.

Product must be prepacked in a bandolere format. The feeder has its own servo drive motors, microprocessor and uses no vacuums or cams to drive from a parent conveyor.

Machines can be linked to a vertical bagging machine, cartoning line, horizontal wrapper or any other application that requires automatic feeding of difficult to handle, three dimensional items.

Longford (Gouverneur Koppesingel 81/2b, 3500 Hasselt, Belgium - tel: 010 32 11 28 40 26, fax: 28 40 32) tells *Packaging News* that the dispenser requires only 15 minutes of

operator training time and 5 minutes set up time.

Machines have just been installed in the UK for cereal and confectionery applications, Edward Paterson md of Longford Entrepote tells *PN*.

It can be mounted besides the scales on vertical bag equipment or at floor level, and has multiple head dispensers.

For further information call 0838 772288



The Vegplast pot - the board sleeve can easily be removed

Easy-peel sleeve on pp dessert pot

Yoghurts, creams and quality dairy desserts can now be packed in polypropylene containers with a cartonboard sleeve, now available in the UK from Corporate Packaging.

Both thermoformed flat-base pots and injection moulded pedestal pots can be supplied for microwavable products in the ready meals and dessert sectors, says the company (23 Long Garden Walk, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7HX - tel: 0252 717077, fax: 717005).

containers which are said by the company, to use 40 per cent less plastics than traditional pots. The board is made from 80 per cent recycled material.

As well as offering environmental features, the board provides for a far higher quality printing surface than plastics for full colour illustrations. As the board can be removed, marketing and promotional messages can be printed in one colour on the reverse side.

Cartonboard sleeves will also now be available on the range of polystyrene containers produced by Vegplast.

For further information call 0838 772288

Heatwave boom for canned drink sales

Record temperatures have resulted in increased sales of canned drinks and 'booming' recycling figures for aluminium drinks cans, according to the Aluminium Can Recycling Association (ACRA).

"July has seen many alu-

minium can recycling centres reporting a record breaking month, with significant increases in the number of aluminium cans recycled compared to previous years," says Alex Griffin of ACRA (tel: 021-633 4656).

ACRA's research indicates that 21 per cent of UK consumed aluminium drinks cans were recycled in 1993, with the aim for 1994 to achieve a recycling rate of 25 per cent.

Label printer meets pallet needs



To help suppliers to the retail and automotive industries that are now required to provide barcoded pallet labels or be delisted, BPC Numeric Arts has launched a wide-format printer.

The Zebra 170Xi thermal transfer printer is capable of printing 168mm wide labels up to 152mm a second. It readily accommodates a variety of compliance labelling specifications including Odette for the automotive industry.

The Zebra 170Xi thermal transfer label printer

try and EAN-128 for the packaging industry, and various pallet label formats, says the company (First Avenue, Globe Park, Marlow, Bucks SL7 1YA - tel: 0628 487000, fax: 487007).

Previously, says the company, EAN-128 pallet printing at A5 size to meet required industry standards meant using printers that were either too small, thus failing to produce labels to the required standard, or too large and therefore wasteful and expensive. Print head sizes of 5.5in produced labels too small to meet EAN-128 specifications, whereas the 8in printers were printing labels much larger than required with the resulting waste of money and materials.

The 170Xi is designed for the automotive industry Odette, and to meet EAN-128 standards, says the company.

For further information call 0838 772288



Tins protect riding hats

When Lord Kitchener's army went into battle at Omdurman in 1898, they were protected by headgear made by Thomas Townard.

Today, equestrian headgear made by the same company is protected by metal containers made by Wallin, Pachiney Packaging's specialist manufacturer. Designs on the containers were created by Elgar International, whose director Mark Packham says: "There were a few fears about the tins becoming dented but now everyone is generally pleased with the product."

Further information is available from Pachiney Packaging Food & General Line Ltd (100 Capability Green, Luton, Beds LU1 3LG - tel: 0582 481717, fax: 26954).

For further information call 0838 772288

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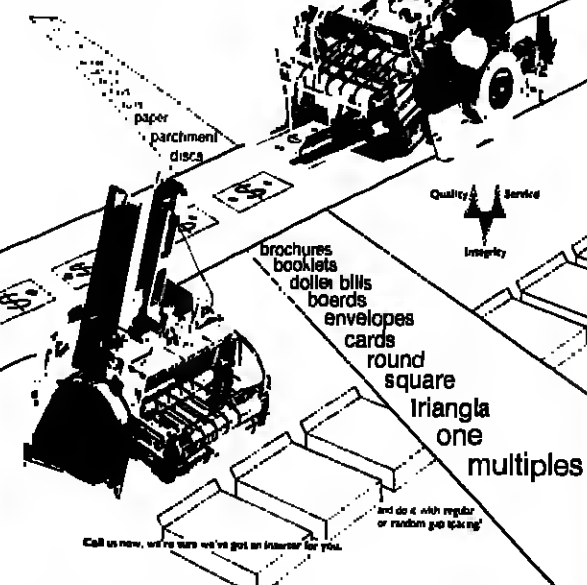
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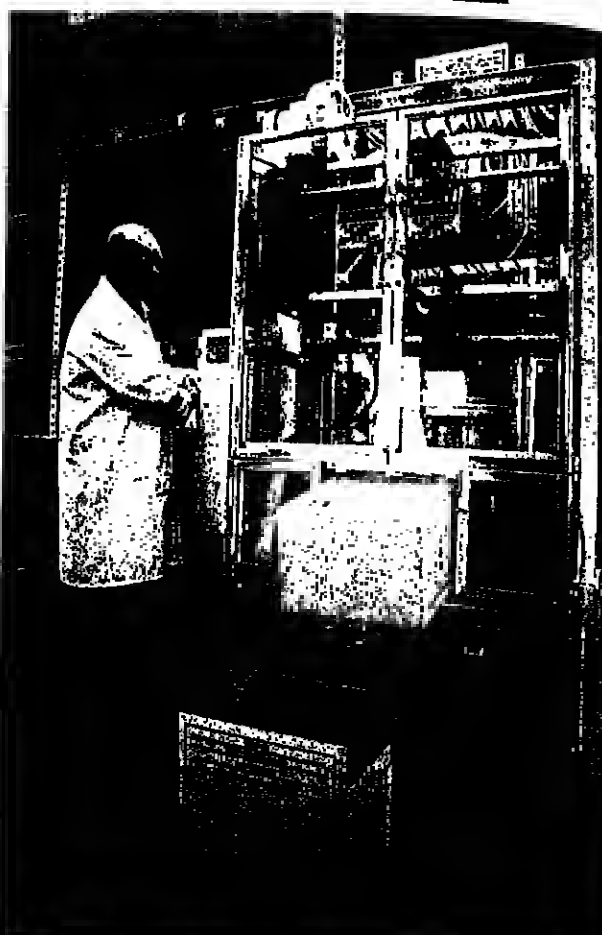


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46

NEWS



SWF Blismatic case erector: reducing bulk product packaging

Case erector gives lightness benefits

Hot melt adhesive manufacturer, Beardow & Adams has commissioned its second SWF Blismatic case erecting machine to allow it to reduce the size of its bulk product packaging.

Beardow & Adams' concern over the health and safety implications of regular manual handling of heavy loads has prompted the company to reduce the standard weight of its packs from 25 to 14kg. The benefits of these lighter packs will be felt by the adhesive manufacturers' own staff and the line operators of its customers.

The Blismatic machine erects three piece 'Blis-boxes' of 14kg capacity which are produced on a jib basis to match production, says machine supplier David S Smith Packaging Systems (Bath). "Equally impressive are the boxes it produces. These are formed from a wraparound with separate end pieces, and the resulting solid-based case has proved extremely popular with our customers, being both strong and easy to handle."

For further information K9-156 Call for details 0838 772288

Liner reseal prevents caking in coffee jars

Nestlé UK is now using Quadraseal liner from Sonoco Capsals for its Nescafé range of coffees.

This liner was introduced at the end of last year as a replacement for the traditional wax lamination of the membrane to reseal board. Instead, a transparent polymer coating is now used.



The printed foil looks much better

The appearance of the foil, particularly when printed, is much improved and the reseal performance of the liner in the cap also reduces any tendency of the product to 'cake' in the jar after removal of the foil by the consumer.

For further information K9-156 Call for details 0838 772288

COMPANY NEWS



Gerald Malone MP presenting B55750 to Derek Moore, md and Berry Hughes, sales director, of Sussex & Berkshire Machinery Co

John Waddington plc has announced plans to effectively double the size of its folding carton business, with the acquisition of Inca Carton-nages, Hoogerheide, of the Netherlands. This is the first such alliance between two major companies of this type in the UK and continental Europe, says Waddington (0532 770202).

David S Smith (Holdings) plc (071-222 8855) has acquired Ashton Corrugated Ltd from French group Dier for £15.5 million. Ashton works from locations in Bristol, Clay Cross and Dumbarton, specialising in die cutting and preprinted corrugated board, principally for the food industry.

A planned annual increase in per manufacturing capacity of 45 per cent by the end of 1998 has been announced by Eastman Chemical Company (010 1 212 7825203). Its Spanish affiliate is planning the construction of a 60,000 tonne pet plant in San Roque, Spain.

Jarvis Porter Group (0532 703800) has announced the completion of its purchase of the Dutch NBB (Niederlande Grafische Groep bv). Product areas catered for include self-adhesive labels and tea and coffee labels and packs.

Companies CarnaudMetalbox and Wheaton have announced the merger of their respective health and heavy packaging operations to form Wheaton International, headquartered in the USA. This will enable both CMB (010 33 1 44156800) and Wheaton to reach worldwide markets.

Amcor Ltd has acquired the remaining 51 per cent equity it did not already own in Willander Holdings Ltd, the UK corrugated box manufacturer. The first 48 per cent was acquired by Amcor (0488 488184) in March 1997.

Aluolisse-Lonza Holding Ltd has announced that its packaging division will now be known as Lawson Mardon Packaging (LMP), with all former A-L Packaging and LMG companies integrated into this grouping. The division will be the eighth largest packaging supplier in Europe, estimates LMP (0272 484200).

Research and development by UK packaging companies has increased by 15 per cent to £40 million, according to Company Reporting Ltd (031-558 1400). Top spender in the sector is Arjo Wiggins Appliance, with De la Rue and Bowater also high on the list.

Minipack Sampling Solutions has been acquired by McCormick (UK) plc. The sample and promotional pack manufacturer (0488 781837) will become a part of McCormick's packaging division.

The US Packaging Machinery Manufacturers Institute (PMMI) - sponsor of Chicago's Pack Expo, held in November - has transferred its offices from central Washington to Arlington Virginia (tel: 010 1 202 3473838, fax: 6282471).

The UCB group of Belgium has announced the formation of UCB Flexibles, with Tony Kendall as UK md. The company (0608 784453) will act as the sales and marketing arm

It purpose-built factory, increasing its capacity to two lines of the primegraphic in-line carton production system.

The eight-year dispute between Nissei ASB and Aoki regarding some 300 patents held by Aoki in stretch-blow moulding has been resolved in Aoki's favour by Japan's Supreme Court, says UK agent for Aoki and Nissei Plastics, Trendpam Machinery Ltd (081-391 4411).

A strategic alliance has been struck between Bowater Containers Ltd, the corrugated division of Bowater Packaging, and the Corrugated Board division of NV Koninklijke KNP bt, manufacturing in the Netherlands and Germany. A supply network for pan-European customers will be offered. Bowater Packaging is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bowater plc (071-581 1149).

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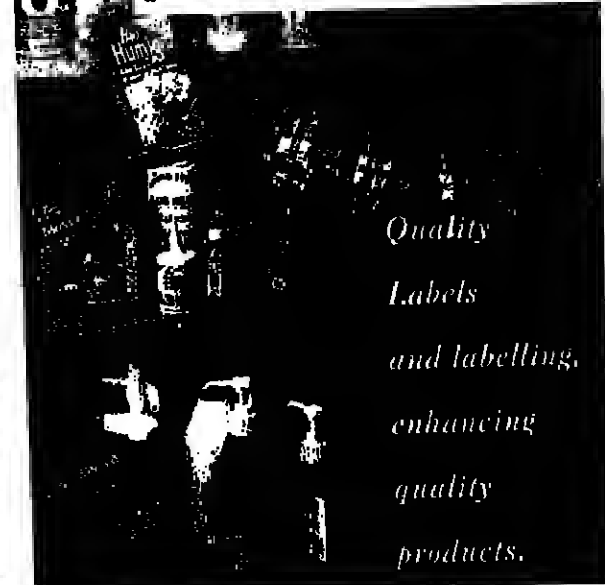
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PACKAGING NEWS/SEPTEMBER 1994

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Erector has high volume infeed

A high speed case erector from Italian company Bortolin Kemo - the first of its kind in the UK - complete with a high volume infeed for blanks has replaced manual case erecting at Calypso Soft Drinks.

Expanding its end of line systems to cope with increased demand across its range of soft drinks - including the topical Flinstones brand - Calypso has installed the UK's first high speed, automatically-fed Bortolin case erector sold by agent GBI Lerner-Burgess.

"The whole exercise has improved the efficiency of the operation and the general appearance and quality of the product itself," says Calypso group engineering manager John Ball.

Other equipment installed

along with the FOC 35/37 case erector includes a PH124 side-

fed shrinkwrapper, built by GBE Lerner-Burgess, for wrapping collations of filled cases.

Standard versions of the case erector have a high level hopper which may need refilling every five minutes at the machine's top speed of 37 cases a minute, says GBE (Fleeming Road, Hinckley, Leics LE10 3DU - tel: 0455 613888, fax: 618538).

On this model Cesece for Flinstones soft drinks are erected on the Bortolin

of the machine, an automatic, powered conveyor infeed allows up to 1000 blanks to be loaded at a low level. Grouped in up to eight piles, this supply will last as long as 30 minutes, says GBE.

The system means that manual lifting is minimised. Since many of the blanks used are high-gloss, with a risk of instability, the final section of the infeed conveyor slides forward to place the blanks into the guides of the magazine.

Cases are glued with hot melt adhesive and then hand filled with 12 or 24 membrane sealed pp cups of soft drink. Completed cases are hot melt sealed shut, then shrinkwrapped in 2 x 2 or 3 x 2 formats.

For further information K9 Call for details 0839 772268



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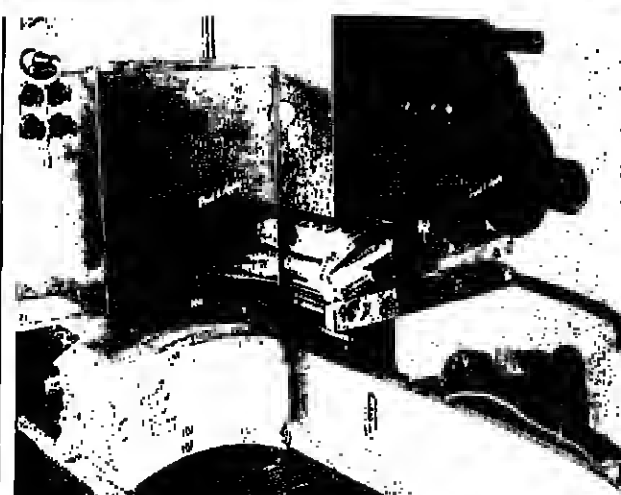
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Each pack of linings is automatically oriented in the right position

Print and apply equipment handles bulky brake linings

Heavy packs of brake linings are being labelled by print and apply equipment from Herma Labelling Systems in an installation replacing hand application of labels.

With each pack weighing up to 40lb, the packer required an infeed which could take this bulk and weight, with sensors to stop the operation automatically should product of the wrong height be fed through. This is vital to avoid damage to the labelling module.

Herma's unit uses thermal transfer printing rather than the dot matrix used in the previous manual system. Coding and labelling quality as well as speeds are improved in a single smooth handling process,

says Herma.

Automatic orientation on the conveyor is among the features adding to the visual appearance of the product. The system will accommodate a range of pack shapes and sizes, says Herma (The Holland Centre, Hollands Road, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 8PR - tel: 0440 63366, fax: 706830).

The dense character reproduction possible with thermal transfer means improved legibility even on convex or angled shapes. The correct label/product combination is ensured when a digital code is keyed in. Confirmation is in the form of a single line digital display.

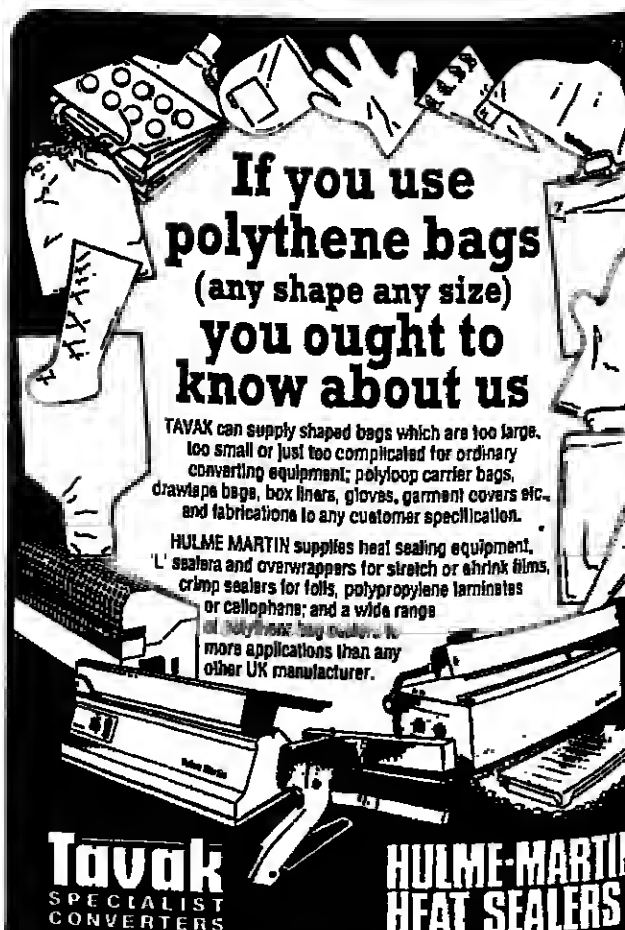
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The new single site will combine production, sales and service with the specialist converting activities of their subsidiary TAVAK.

The move avoids the limitations of operating a factory in the centre of London where this long established company has been based for many years.



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PACKAGING NEWS/SEPTEMBER 1994



The Iris Inkjet printing from Scitex: taking the digital route further

Digital proofs cut lead times further

High resolution digital proofing to reduce lead times even further by cutting out the Cromalin stage is now available at digital artwork reproduction company, Digitec Design Ltd. This allows a customer to approve its design concepts without the need to produce films.

Taking the digital route one step further is possible with the installation of an Iris inkjet printing system, from Scitex, as part of a £250,000 investment at Digitec (Nottingham Road, Spondon, Derby DE2 7XA - tel: 0332 281302, fax: 281952).

The context system, supplied by Xyvision, is being upgraded to make the operation four times faster. More powerful scanning and

retouching with an additional work station complete the new equipment.

This means Digitec can now produce digital proofs showing special colours as well as process colours so customers see more accurate representations of their designs.

To offer a more complete prepress service, a £1 million investment programme has been set up with sister company Technograv, which now has five engraving machines. Based on the same site in Derby, Digitec and Technograv offer an integrated service to help reduce make-ready time by two thirds and independent operations according to project requirements.

For further information K9 Call for details 0839 772268



The SafeTE closure from Jaycare Ltd, working with Wellcome

Closure helps to tackle sticky liquid problems

A closure that combines tamper evident and child resistant features for use with sticky liquid preparations has been developed by Jaycare Ltd following close collaboration with ethical pharmaceutical manufacturer Wellcome.

The SafeTE closure incorporates a secondary drive mechanism that provides a means of removing the cap should the primary drive fail

due to product contamination. It incorporates a separate 'opening aid' for use by the elderly or arthritic.

The cap liner provides the main barrier to the liquid, says Jaycare (14 Alder Road, West Chirton North Industrial Estate, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE29 8SD - tel: 091-296 0303, fax: 091-296 1842).

For further information K9 Call for details 0839 772268

PACKAGING NEWS/SEPTEMBER 1994

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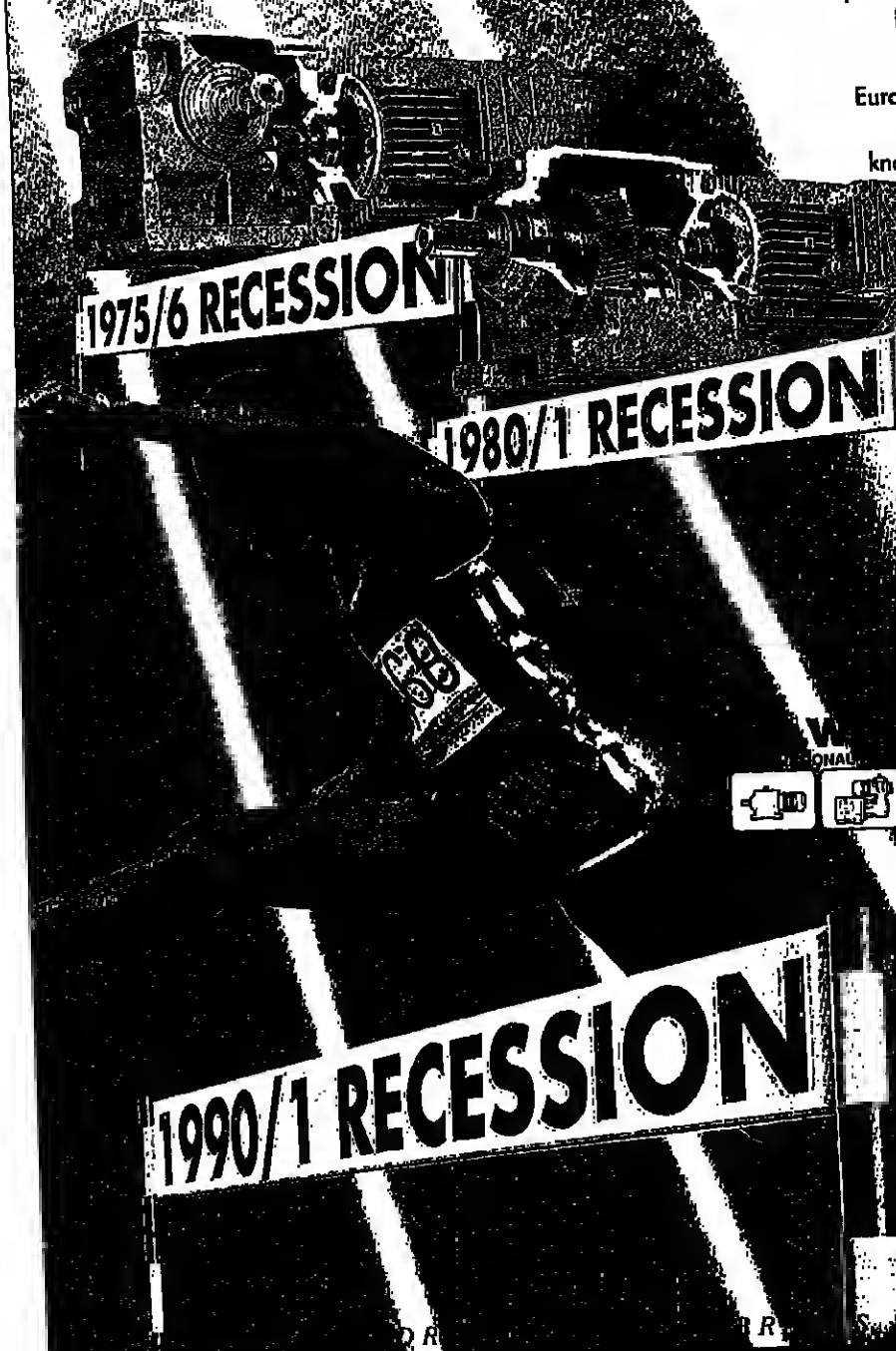
Eurodrive has successfully finished its first 25 year U.K. sprint well ahead of the competition.

The journey has not always been easy. Market forces and the economic climate have sometimes thrown hurdles in its path.

Eurodrive however, has taken these minor obstacles in its stride, fuelled by the knowledge and confidence inspired by a champion product range.

The company's commitment to engineering excellence, athletic deliveries and ongoing research and development is now enjoyed by a healthy club of over 9,000 U.K. supporters.

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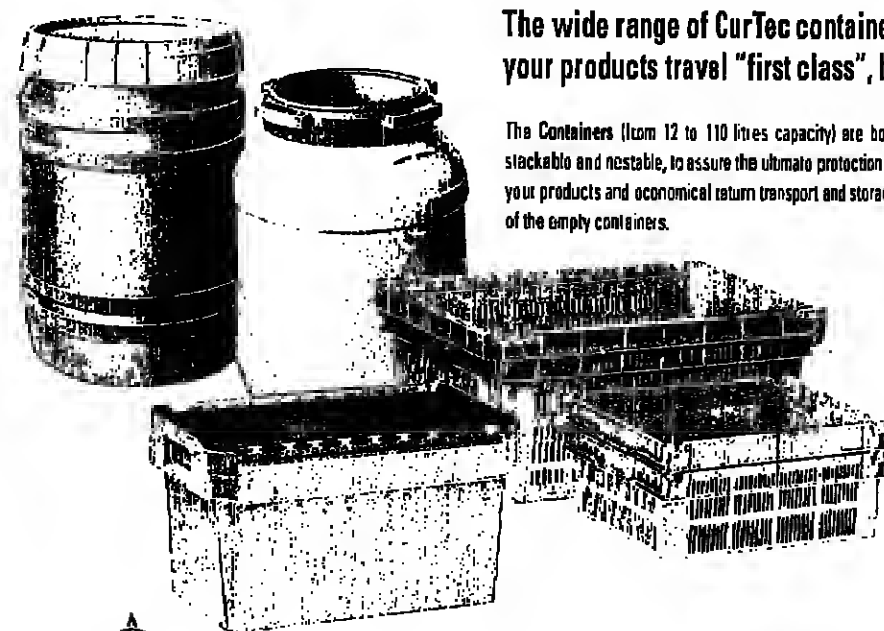
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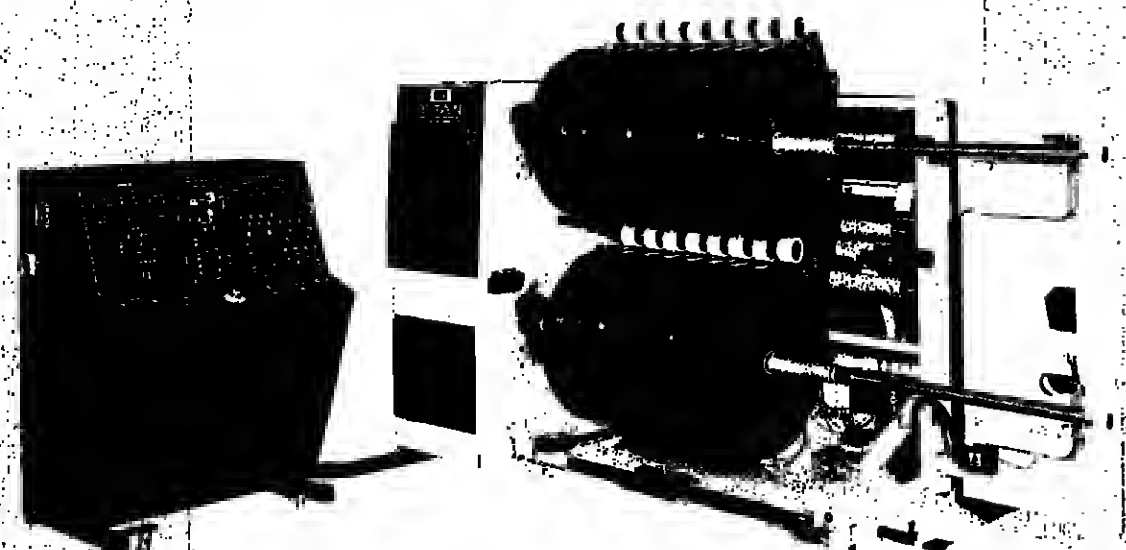
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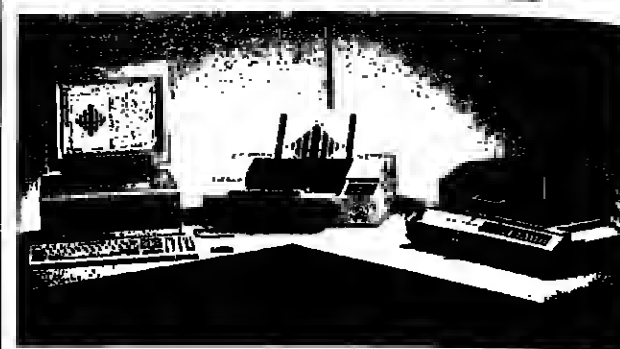
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50

NEWS



Armatext: helps meet health, safety and security requirements

Labels designed for endurance

A system claimed to be the world's first integrated system for designing and printing permanent labels has been launched by Episys Ltd.

Called Armatext, the system has been developed in conjunction with Raychem, a leader in polymer science and printer manufacturer, Lexmark International to allow companies to meet increasingly stringent statutory health, safety and security requirements.

Labels produced by Armatext are resistant to acids, any other chemicals or corrosive substances found in industrial environments, extreme weather conditions, and strong abrasive forces. This makes them particularly suitable for safety in critical and hostile environments, says Episys (Ash House, Melbourn Science Park, Melbourn, Nr Royston, Herts SG8 6EJ - tel: 0763 262629).

"Potentially hazardous"

In particular, the company talks of chemicals, petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals or other industries where potentially hazardous materials and waste products are handled.

At the heart of the system

is software specifically developed by Episys to allow in-house design and production of labels. These can carry variable information in large or small quantities and sizes up to A3.

"Database is sophisticated"

Text, graphics, photographic images and variable data such as barcodes can be imported or originated in the system's sophisticated database. Colour can also be used to highlight key information, such as potentially dangerous properties, or essential information for use.

Using a technology developed by Raychem, Armatext produces a "locked-in" printed image. Once designed, the label is printed onto a substrate of polyester film, using a high definition printer from Lexmark. One side is coated with a permanent, high performance adhesive, the other with a heat reactive, print receptive surface.

After printing, the labels undergo a heat curing process which results in a surface resistant to abrasion.

For further information K9 127 Call for details 0838 772288

NEWS BRIEFS

AN INTERNATIONAL survey which focuses on 100 environmental reports produced in 1992/3 and finds that only five come close to providing effective data, is now available from UK environmental consultancy SusteinAbility Ltd. Company Environmental Reporting was produced for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and is available at a cost of £30 from SusteinAbility (071-243 1277).

TETRA LAVAL FOOD has developed an oil resistant paper which is said to allow vegetable oil to be packed in Tetra Pak cartons. Given the background in continuous forming and filling of liquid packages, rapid growth in this segment of business is anticipated, says the company in Sweden (+46 853 085000).

THE NORTHERN PACKAGING PLUS Exhibition which runs from 9-10 November is almost sold out, with 78 out of the 80 available stands booked so far. Organiser AES Events (081-681 8688) reports that demand is high from all sectors of the packaging industry.

A £250,000 CONTRACT from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) has been won by Repro Technology Ltd (0838 250363) to provide migration data for food contact materials. The purpose of this work is to help establish the safe use of these materials in contact with food.

FOOD CONTACT MIGRATION studies conducted by Pira and funded by the PVC product group of the Packaging and Industrial Films Association (Pifa), have opened the way to testing of PVC elastomer sheet, avoiding the prohibitive cost of testing individual finished articles. A test sheet - PVC sheet and Thermoflexed Articles: Migration Testing - is now available on request from Pifa (0802 422445).

BT IS GOING TO PROVIDE a free ISDN 2 line installation to every company exhibiting at the Graphic Communications Event (27-29 Sept 1994 - NEC, Birmingham) to allow delegates to witness the power of high speed digital graphic file transfer.

NEWS

Environment-friendly board blisters

A range of board blisters which provide an alternative to conventional plastics and card combinations has been introduced by Storey Evans in response to environmental considerations.

Some European countries will no longer accept plastics and card combinations and so the board concepts, and machinery to produce them, have been developed by Spruyt Holland bv, Storey Evans' Dutch subsidiary.

The range includes one and two part, mono material board blisters as well as a sealed, folded over board and plastics blister, which does not contaminate the overall pack when opened.

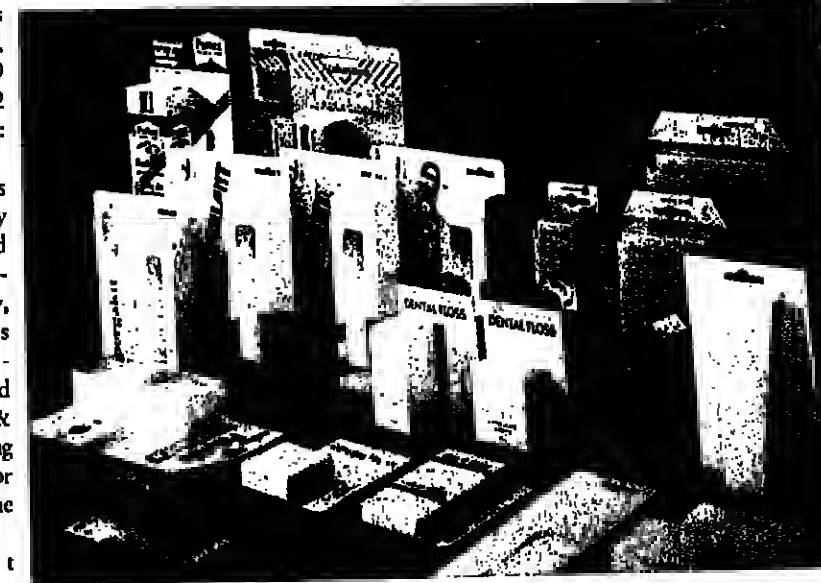
All three styles are produced on one machine, says

Storey Evans (Rawdon, Leeds LS19 6EA - tel: 0532 502323, fax: 509228).

The packs have already been adopted by pharmaceutical company, Bayer for its Autan insecticide range and Johnson & Johnson is using the concept for its oral hygiene products.

Spruyt Holland bv also has a contract packing factory, with machinery to erect blank cards, fold over the blister and then fill product.

For further information K9 130 Call for details 0838 772288



Board blisters developed by Spruyt Holland bv, which is Storey Evans' Dutch subsidiary

Prepare for Interphex

With four months still to go before Interphex 94, the exhibition for the pharmaceutical industry covering raw materials through to processing and packaging equipment, the show is 90 per cent sold.

It is expected that over 200 companies will be represented at this year's event, which takes place from 23-25 November at

Olympia, London. A two day conference with the theme 'Capitalising on a Changing Pharmaceutical Market' will run alongside the show.

A brochure on the conference is available from Caroline Elliot at IBC Technical Services (tel: 071-637 4383). For information on the show, contact organiser Reed Exhibitions Companies (Oriel House, 26 The Quadrant, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1DL - tel: 081-948 9840, fax: 081-948 9989).

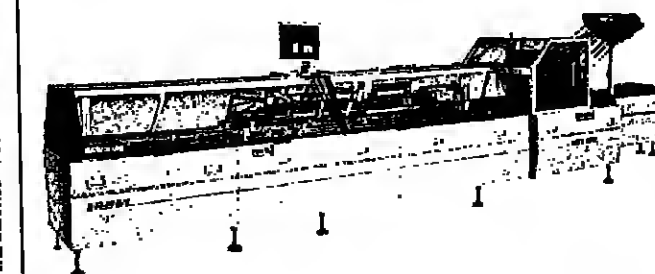
For further information K9 132 Call for details 0838 772288

Entry forms for Starpack

Entry forms detailing judging criteria in the Starpack 95 competition are available from the Institute of Packaging (IOP), with closing date for entries set at 30 November this year. A consumer transit dis-

play package section has been created. Details from the IOP (Sysonby Lodge, Nottingham Road, Mehon Mowbray, Leics - tel: 0664 500055, fax: 64164).

For further information K9 133 Call for details 0838 772288



BPM Ltd's cartoners are designed to reduce cartoning costs

Polish cartoner order

The Lyons Bakery plant in Poland has just ordered two of BPM Ltd's latest end load cartoning machines, type Freemantle T-7 Auto and semi automatic.

In the UK, Lyons Bakery has several MEL high speed cartoners from BPM and it was the success of this equipment that has led to the orders from Poland for these medium output cartoners.

Designed for ease of use, all

size changeovers on the BPM cartoners can be handled quickly and reliably by operators, using simple digital adjustment.

All of the equipment has been developed to allow clients to reduce cartoning costs, says the company (78-86 Pennywell Road, Bristol, Avon BS5 0TR - tel: 0272 558222, fax: 556007).

For further information K9 131 Call for details 0838 772288

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Pvc: the latest moves and evolving markets

Demand for resealability in flexibles and the evolving markets for pet are among the areas of plastics surveyed here. We dedicate the beginning of our feature to the latest moves in pvc packaging and the material's profile in and beyond the UK.

When a company such as Evian opts to switch from pvc to pet for mineral water in the domestic French market, environmental groups are quick to claim this as yet another nail in the coffin of pvc. But overall the picture is much more balanced, even in continental Europe, and when changes do occur they are often as much to do with logistical considerations as they are with "green credentials".

Approximately half the bottles used by Evian have

been supplied for the French market in pvc, but for logistical reasons the company will standardise in 1995 on the pet used for export markets.

Of course, when companies change to pvc - and this also happens - we hear a lot less about it. These decisions are more often to do with mundane reasons such as price and performance.

Admittedly, short term price rises in themselves have a limited effect in determining the type of plastics specified. While



a cost/performance assessment may lead to a shift for certain applications in, say, the automotive industry, this is unlikely in itself to be a cause of such a change in packaging. Of course, when price increases are poten-

tially of the order of 50 per cent, this may change.

In Germany, legislation has led to a reduction in the use of pvc for packaging purposes, despite lower prices for this material as compared with

substitutes such as pet.

Hoechst Films reports that while demand for its pvc product is growing in technical areas, for packaging applications it is shrinking - especially in Central Europe. But the trend for the UK seems to be one of continued growth.

According to figures from the BPF (British Plastics Federation), some 14 per cent of pvc by weight is used in packaging applications in the UK. Over a quarter of worldwide production comes out of Western Europe - slightly more than from North America.

The UK is still a net importer of pvc, but domestic production will be added to by the decision of EVC to expand capacity at its Runcorn plant by 30,000 tonnes a year.

In the UK, retailers such as Boots have been quite open about staying with pvc. "We keep a watchful eye on all sorts of materials and pvc is one of them. We don't see a proven case against it on environmental grounds," Phil Stubbs, environmental coordinator at Boots the Chemists, tells *PN*.

But whereas a UK retailer such as Boots or Marks &

Rhovyl and Elf Atochem have recycled pvc mineral water bottles to make jumpers

Spencer can openly support pvc for performance and price reasons, under the DSD it is the supermarkets which have led the field in finding substitutes for the material, and made Germany the only country to do this in large quantities.

In Belgium, the threat of a

Just published in a leaflet, "Pvc - the Facts", available free for individual copies from the BPF (6 Bank Place, Rivington Street, London EC2A 3JE - tel: 071-461 5000, fax: 071-467 5046). It covers what pvc is, where and how it is made and the different applications.

Footas persuaded many users, among them mineral water giant Spa, to reassess the plastic they specified for large volume production.

Environmental perceptions have led the large German retailers to turn away from pvc, but suppliers report that some have expressed interest in buying the material given the right price, but with the caveat that

they would deny using it if this was publicised.

This sort of double standard is also said to apply in some Scandinavian markets, and is perhaps inevitable where users of the material do not believe or care about any environmental risk there may or may not be, while playing on these perceptions for marketing advantages. Earlier this year, a German regional court of appeal ruled that a "Pvc-free" flash on packaging constituted unfair competition.

The debate between producers and users on one side and the environmental lobbies, led by Greenpeace, on the other continues. Advertising describing pvc as an "environmental poison" was withdrawn follow-

suggests that foetal development and immune system damage were the key areas of concern with exposure to dioxins, rather than cancer as previously believed.

But end users of pvc packaging do not see supposed links with dioxins as a problem. While Boots is aware of the debate, it believes that incinerators, for example, now have sufficient safeguards to allay any concerns, says Mr Stubbs.

Preconceptions concerning the material run very deep, even in the UK. Pifa had to step in to have a statement in Sir Sydney Lipworth's report to the PRG amended to give a fairer view of pvc's current status in UK packaging. The original statement said the material

tributes to the total of those constituents deemed to be a risk.

Aiming to demonstrate environmental responsibility, users and suppliers of pvc in Germany have formulated a "closed loop" recycling concept for pvc - more particularly for larger scale rigid pvc applications, but with the possible inclusion of returnable packaging or product separated under the DSD.

"Bottles are used to make jumpers"

As reported in last month's issue, pvc mineral water bottles in France are being recycled and used for making jumpers with the help of producer Elf Atochem. One advantage of pvc in recycling generally is its tolerance of impurities. According to Hoechst's films

division, film can be converted from just 94 per cent pure pvc.

But perhaps the biggest help in rehabilitating pvc on environmental grounds will be given by the BASF chemical recycling facility at Ludwigshafen, and the DSD's support of it. The great advantage of this installation is that it can handle mixed plastics and break them down, irrespective of their composition, in a sealed environment.

While pvc may still do well in terms of cost and, in general terms, performance, the material may suffer from a lack of investment on improvements to it, according to some moulders. But Jim Pugh, chief executive of Pifa, points out that it remains the most widely researched plastics material. "The use of pvc worldwide is growing. People do not hesitate to support such growth with underpinning development," he tells *PN*.



Lids beat strawberry crush

Beating the summer crush for strawberries are pvc lids from MY Sharp Interpack, designed to fit the latest metric range of punnets for soft fruits.

"Our lids enable punnets to be stacked, saving storage and shelf space," says Jeremy Sampson, sales and marketing director at MY Sharp (Aylesham, Kent CT3 3EF - tel: 0304 840581, fax: 841922).

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Resealable bags: why the delay?

Given the proliferation of reclosable systems for plastic bags, and clearly identified consumer demand for them, why are companies dragging their heels over incorporating resealable systems that would make consumers' lives easier, asks Camilla Reed?

Reclosability, like openability, is a subject that strikes a chord of consumer dissatisfaction, but very few sectors have, as yet, adopted resealable bags.

To date, most penetration has been in the grated cheese market, some flirtation with frozen vegetables and fish by major retailers and there have been forays into the confectionery and nut markets. One UK retailer, Safeway Stores plc, uses a reclosable system for rice.

The adoption of reclosable bag systems has mainly been driven by suppliers not retailers. It seems this will continue to be the trend until the systems available are faster, easier and, most impor-

tantly, cheaper according to major retailers.

A number of manufacturers now provide 'zip-like' resealable closures for flexibles. In the UK, Supreme Plastics (Supreme House, 300 Regents Park Road, London N3 2TL - tel: 081-349 3434, fax: 081-346 1624) and Hanlex Ltd (Blackhorse Road, Letchworth, Herts - tel: 0767 600534, fax: 678431) offer these.

These reclosable options can be produced on vertical and horizontal form, fill and seal or flow wrap systems in mono pc, coextruded laminates or complex laminates.

Many retailers still need to be convinced that consumers want reclosable systems and that they will pay more for them, however. While market share improved by 25 per cent for Express Foods when it used a resealable bag for its Eden Vale grated cheese the same has not so far been recorded in the

frozen food sector.

Chris Griffin of PI Design Consultants says its recent consumer research indicates that: "72 per cent of men and 57 per cent of women raised reclosure spontaneously, including giving pack examples." Cereals, milk/juice and bacon packaging were the products most highlighted.

The higher response from men was attributed to women being the family purchaser who is pragmatic, and knows where the sticky label or elastic bands are kept in the kitchen to close things up.

Reclosable systems were generally accepted by consumers where there was no big fuss made about them: then they were seen as an advantage. If there was an on-cost, and a big fanfare made about it, then there was a swift and emphatic consumer rejection of the pack, says Mr Griffin.

Leeland Frozen Foods tells

PN that it believes that consumers expect packs to be easy to open and to reclose and see it as part of the design, and for this reason they will not pay a premium for the reclosure system. Leeland does not currently use any resealable systems, although the company has examined them in the past. The main obstacle has been cost.

"The systems available have not justified the on-cost. There is no system to date which is acceptable in quality

or function for the cost," says Leeland. "There is no increase in sales using a resealable bag. I think that in a competitive market place it is difficult to justify 1 or 2 pence extra. However, despite rejecting it before, one always returns. We know it must be an advantage to consumers but they are not prepared to pay extra."

Despite these reservations, the company is about to launch a food product in a resealable bag this month.

Safeway's packaging technologist, David Oxborough, says that the company packs a 2kg pack of rice and its own label grated cheese in a resealable bag. "The resealable bag for rice was offered to us by the supplier and the on-cost is absorbed by them, so we have no premium on the shelf".

Privately some retailers said they should be doing more, however, others unofficially told PN that resealability is not a big issue for them.

"Retailers are not helping these initiatives like openability and reclosability. They want it done by somebody else and made cheaper end of story," says Mr Griffin of PI Design.

But Mr Griffin does believe some complaints about the current systems are justified. "Somebody still has not delivered a simple in-line system which is in effect the ring pull

or function for the cost," says Leeland. "There is no increase in sales using a resealable bag. I think that in a competitive market place it is difficult to justify 1 or 2 pence extra. However, despite rejecting it before, one always returns. We know it must be an advantage to consumers but they are not prepared to pay extra."

their systems they will incorporate this technology." Tenda Frost Frozen Foods Ltd recently launched its 4lb frozen peas in a Hanlex resealable bag (see PN August) which has to date, been available in limited numbers. Consequently, consumer reaction has been difficult to measure.

"But the range has sold well albeit in a limited market," says the sales director of Tenda Frost. "It is therefore to be extended to include 2lb bags to enable us to reach a wider market and be in line with the market trend towards smaller packs."

Sarah Davies of Supreme Plastics, which already supplies reclosable systems for cheese and confectionery markets, says that a resealable system does add to packaging costs, becoming more expensive than a pillow pack. She believes, however that resistance to resealable systems is largely due to customer ignorance.

"Some people think they have to have a ffs system," she says. "But if you want to do a market test, Supreme can provide anything from a bag you fill by hand to a semi or fully automatic system."

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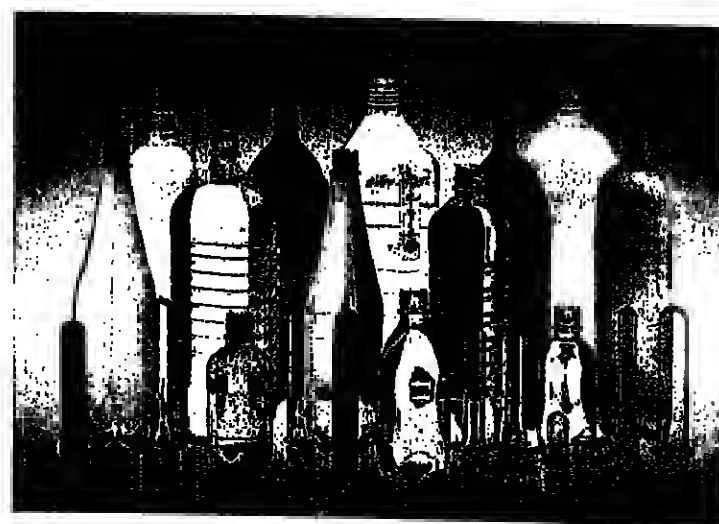
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PLASTICS



Victor International Plastics: Spectrophotometers are linked to computers to generate colours on a visual display unit

Collaborators in colour creation

Although colour compound and masterbatch makers for the plastics moulding industry traditionally deal with the injection and blowmoulding teams, packaging technologists are increasingly approaching them direct, to ask them to design colours.

Andrew Donkin, commercial manager at Victor International Plastics, the colour compound and masterbatch maker, tells *PN*: "The earlier we become involved the better. It's not unusual for us to be working with the marketing and development departments for 12 months before a product is launched."

Recently the company has worked with Boots The Chemist on its No 17 Cosmetics. Sara Lee on its Radox herbal bath and Marks & Spencer on its hair care range.

The company, a division of Bowater plc, uses spectrophotometers linked to computers to generate colours on a visual display unit. This saves time and gives increased colour control, according to Victor.

**"A library of
40,000
colours"**

"If a customer has a sample of the colour they wish to match, then we may well have something suitable in our library of 40,000 colours. If not we can use the spectrophotometer to quickly help produce a match," says Mr Donkin.

Customers may create their own colours. "They sit with us and if they want green we can run through the options on screen, adding a touch of blue or yellow to obtain the exact colour."

The colour laboratory then produces a plastics plaque of the colour shown on screen in the polymer intended for the product. "There is no need for a series of plaques to be sent between us and our customers until eventually we hit on the 'sky blue green' the customer wanted all along. If a customer is introducing new colourways for a relaunch, the time savings

can be considerable."

Trialling the colour in the polymer is vital because different polymers react with colour in different ways. Opacity and texture affect the visual impression. Lighting is also considered: Victor has on-site facilities to match for north daylight, artificial daylight, tungsten or the lighting conditions of a specified retailer.

**"Designed to
cut waste
and costs"**

Victor (4 Hockley Court, 2401 Stratford Road, Hockley Heath, Solihull, West Midlands B39 6NW - tel: 0564 783113, fax: 783118) is currently helping to re-colour and recycle Woolworths' existing in-store music displays in a scheme designed at cutting waste and costs.

Four Woolworths stores are trialling the recycled display pods and further stores are planned. Previously Woolworth's display system used injection moulded white pods.

Victor has set up a reprocessing programme for Woolworths, involving a number of suppliers. Sorting and grading of the original white pods is done by plastics recycling company Tripenia Ltd, which regrinds the pods and extrudes it in pellet form.

Pelletised material is then delivered to Victor in 25kg sacks, where it is coloured to Woolworths' precise new specification before being re-extruded and delivered to Regent Mouldings.

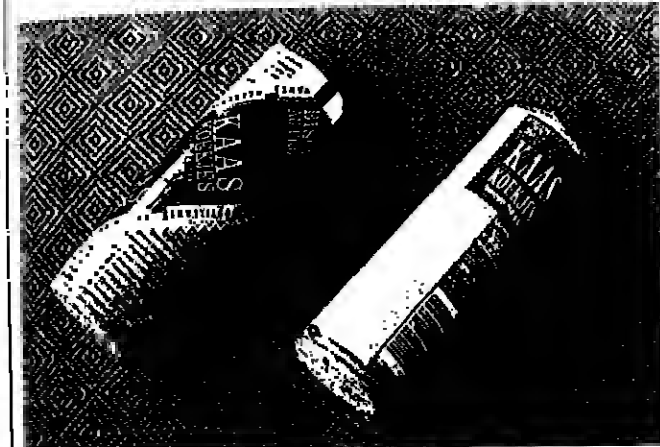
"Normally Victor works from raw polymer to produce a specific colour. In this case we are recycling an existing colour, which we have to alter to produce the perfect end result, a process made simpler and faster by our computerised colour spectrophotometer," comments Mr Donkin.

The material is finally moulded into the required form and delivered back to Sloane for installation in the high street stores.

For further information K9-159 Call for details 0838 772288

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PLASTICS



McVitie's has switched to Rayopp RC from UCB for Kaas Koekjes

Clear opp efficiency

Machine efficiencies were the main reason behind a switch by McVitie's to using acrylic coated clear opp from UCB Films for packing a major Dutch biscuit range.

Kaas Koekjes, cheese-flavoured salted biscuits, are distributed as own label brands in the Netherlands. "We were looking to improve the hear seal of our previous film," says a McVitie's spokesman. The company also wanted alternatives to a pvdc coating.

UCB's Rayopp RC was selected from a range of films. According to McVitie's, its seal integrity even at low temperature, performance on the man-

ufacturer's roll wrap equipment, clarity and gloss were all reasons for the choice.

"Rayopp RC is a high performance yet cost-effective alternative wherever eye-catching flexible packaging is required," explains Martin Scarlett, marketing manager for opp producers at UCB Films (Wigton, Cumbria CA7 9BG - tel: 06973 42281, fax: 49305).

The biaxially oriented film is coated on both sides with an aqueous acrylic dispersion. The film's properties include good moisture protection and aroma barrier, says UCB.

For further information K9-105 Call for details 0838 772288

Plastics tray needs supplied

Vacuum former Masterform is responding to the needs of small to medium size bakers for plastics food trays given the limited selections available from larger suppliers, it says.

Masterform is broadening its range of trays to fill growing gaps in the market as some competitors reduce theirs. "Unless they get substantial, regular orders, some of the bigger vacuum formers are drop-

ping trays from their ranges. Deleting one of two from a choice of 200 is nothing to them," says national accounts sales manager David Darby.

Many smaller-sized bakers have been forced to seek alternative suppliers, sometimes at very short notice.

There has been heavy investment in equipment by Masterform, culminating in the purchase of another Rnsform auto pack thermoformer. Earlier this year, Masterform (MDM House Rainham Road South, Dagenham, Essex - tel: 081-595 4145, fax: 081-593 6500) became part of the MDM organisation.

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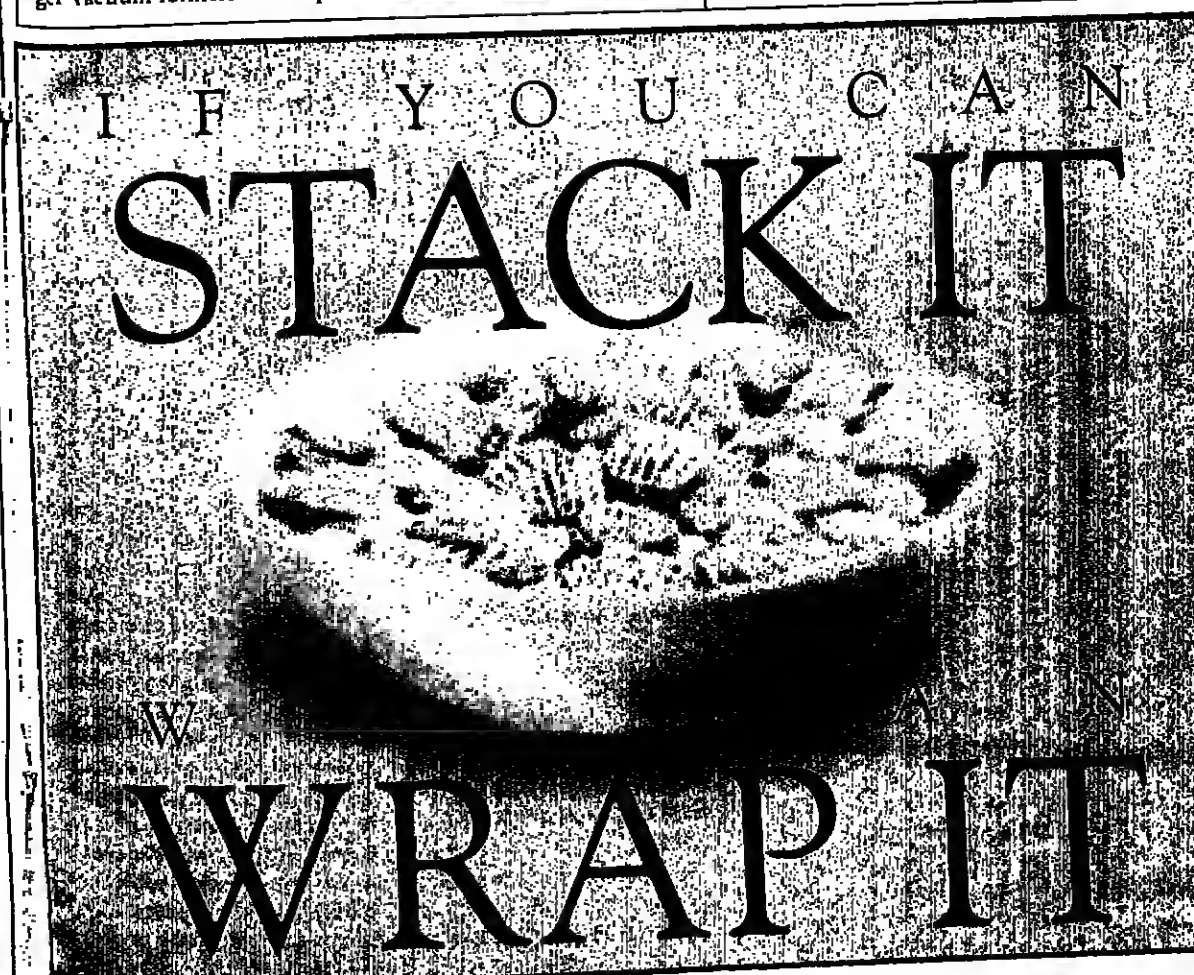
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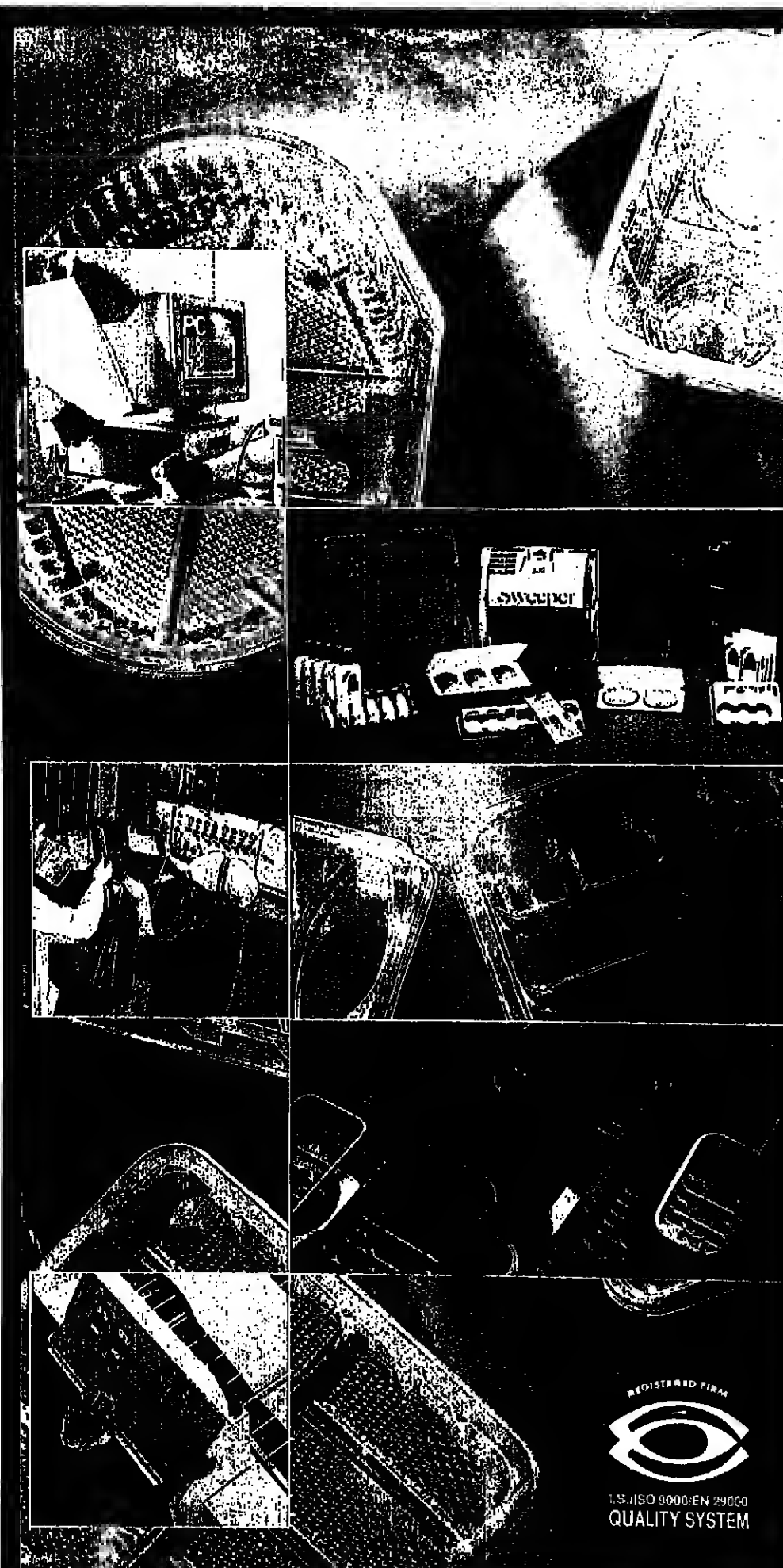
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PLASTICS

World demand for pet continues to grow

"The world market for pet packaging resin saw a demand growth of almost 10 per cent in 1993," says Keith Mitchell, director of PCI (Xylenes & Polyesters).

"This must be compared with far lower growth rates, sometimes negative, in other packaging applications," he said, adding that "1993 saw the groundwork laid for further significant demand growth in 1994 and beyond." He also referred to the trend towards a greater proportion of use of pet for packaging products such as mineral water and for sheet, rather than container applications.

The Plastics High Performance Packaging conference, sponsored by the Society of Plastics Engineers - European Sections, was held earlier this year in Dusseldorf. It dealt prominently with pet growth of the packaging market and the latest technological development in processing this polymer. Speaker at the conference Vladimir M Wolpert reports.

tonnes of pet containers, if they can get more communities to organise the collection of higher quality material, he said. He listed the established

	Supply	Demand
	%	%
North America	45	44
Europe	24	27
Asia/Pacific	27	22
South America	2	3
Africa/Middle East	2	4
	100	100
Totals:	(2.2 million tonnes)	(1.9 million tonnes)

Source: Society of Plastics Engineers - European Sections conference, 1994

The world pet demand (virgin resin material) increased for packaging from 1.2 million tons in 1990 to 1.4 million tons in 1991, to 1.7 million tons in 1992 and to an estimated 1.9 million tons in 1993.

In his presentation, *Increasing the recovery rates of pet containers in Europe*, Vince Matthews, director of PET-CORE (Pet Containers Recycling Europe) explained that the aim of the organisation "is to raise the quantity of pet containers recovered from domestic waste streams and deliver it to the recyclers."

Pet recyclers have the capacity to recycle many more

recyclers of post consumer pet containers in Europe as:

- Reko, The Netherlands
- Reprise, UK
- Wellman, The Netherlands
- Polyrecycling, Switzerland
- Tecoplast, Italy.

Furthermore, he added, Texplast in the Netherlands were currently developing recycling facilities and this could only help the increasing number of schemes spreading across Europe.

Several presentations on the latest developments in the processing of pet were made throughout the conference.

In the paper *Pet for bottle and pasteurisation*, George

Pinter of Johnson Controls International said that the total plastic heat set (hotfill) in the US and Canada had increased from 5 million units in 1987 to 100 million in 1990. In 1992, it had increased to 650 million, in 1993 it was 1,010 million and it was expected to reach 1,200 million this year, and 1,400 million in 1995.

Marjan Stosic, of Husky Injection Moulding Systems in Canada referred to 96 cavity moulding machines with an output of 1,860 pound per hour. His speech was headed *Designing the plastic injection plant for the year 2000* and he talked of the advantages over previous 48 cavity, 300 ton machines with the new equipment. The new 96 cavity 600 tonne machines run at 93 per cent efficiency.

Sauli Tormala of TopWare Instruments said that "the TopWare preform quality tester has been designed to perform the free-blow test as fast and easily as possible. The latest microprocessor technology enables fully automatic testing sequences with several programmable features, he said.

In a paper entitled *Advantages of the warm preform*, Henk van Manen of Rigi Ltd said that warm preform - one stage system (WP) offers many advantages over cold preform-multistage systems (cp) in making pet bottles, for both in-house and resale production environments.

Pet switch needs technical help

Since its introduction almost 20 years ago, pet has revolutionised the plastics packaging industry and today, its applications are widespread. Products of diverse as edible oils, mineral waters, soft drinks and beers have all adopted the material for their products.

But, warns Continental PET Europe (CPE), although upgrading from alternative packaging materials to pet can be a sound economic move, it still represents a major step, particularly for smaller companies. Expert advice and realistic



A selection from Continental PET UK's latest range of bottles

assessment is vital, says the company (The Willowbrook Centre, Curver Way, Steel Road, Corby, Northants NN17 5XN - tel: 0536 401424, fax: 265723).

CPE is the largest producer of pet preforms and bottles for soft drinks in Europe and the company offers customised

technical support that ranges from an advisory service to full turnkey contracts.

At CPE, on-going research and development has brought about weight reductions and increasingly efficient use of

pet as well as the more economical use of production resources. More sophisticated production techniques, allied to computer aided design, has opened the way to containers in more exciting shapes and colours, says the company.

For further information

PLASTICS

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Emphasising pet custom mouldings

When RPC Containers set up its Blackburn site in 1988 it was to develop its injection moulded range of pp small pots, but the factory now houses seven pet machines and increasingly, the bottles and containers produced are custom moulded to order.

Initially, the company began by producing wide mouth jars for confectionery and snack food products as well as



Squeeze 340ml pet mayonnaise bottle

catering size packs of sauces and mayonnaise. Successes in markets like these are an indication of the inroads that pet has made into what were once traditional strongholds for glass.

says the company (Hastings Road, Guide, Blackburn, Lancs BB1 2PX - tel: 0254 682298, fax: 583752).

Philip Jones, RPC Blackburn's sales and marketing manager, is confident that pet will continue to make inroads into markets where glass has up until now held sway, particularly among high value consumer products.

More recently, the site has begun to produce a squeeze 340ml pet bottle for CPC UK Ltd's leading brand, Hellmann's mayonnaise and, perhaps even more significantly, some coffee brands are also now being packed in pet.

Although initially only catering sizes of coffee are involved, RPC believes the trend could well spread eventually to retail packs. On the Hellmann's mayonnaise project, the concept of squeeze pet was originally developed in the US, where a squeeze bottle for the brand has been available for some time. CPC UK Ltd approached RPC, who already supply the company with pet catering jars and pp small pots,

to develop a similar bottle for the UK market.

Key to the squeeze nature of the bottle is its oval shape. "Pet in itself is a strong material and not particularly easy to squeeze so the design of the bottle is critical," explains Mr Jones. "The oval shape provides a wide middle section where pressure can be

most effectively applied to squeeze the pack."

The bottle, which was introduced earlier this year, is produced in mono layer pet, offering excellent barrier properties to maintain shelf life.

"Hellmann's is a brand leader, so it is fitting that we should offer a first in the marketplace with the introduction of a popular squeeze bottle format in pet," says CPC UK's purchasing manager, Peter Laycock. "At the same time, it was essential that we retained the encreet image and positioning of the product."

According to Mr Jones, as well as replacing glass containers in many instances, pet is also creating its own opportunities. Last year, for example, RPC worked with KP Foods to produce the small pet tube for KP's nut range. A larger version will be on the shelves this Christmas.

Around 83 million, including the purchase of a range of Nissei injection stretch blow-moulding machines capable of producing containers in sizes from 250ml up to 5 litres, has been invested by RPC since the early 90s. "We are serious about our specialisation in pet," says Mr Jones, "and our machine specification means we can produce containers with neck diameters from as low as 28mm right up to 140mm."

For further information

Pet capacity expansion

Eastman Chemical Company, the world's largest producer of pet for packaging applications has announced that it intends to increase its annual pet manufacturing capacity by 45 per cent by the end of 1998.

Harry H Holliman, vice president and general manager of Eastman's Container Plastics Business Organisation, says the capacity increase will be made possible by the construction of new plants as well as process improvements.

A 118,000 tonne pet plant in North America will be on

line by the end of 1998 and, when combined with additional capacity resulting from new plants in Mexico and Spain, Eastman's pet manufacturing capacity is expected to increase from the current 727,000 tonnes to 1,045,000 tonnes by the fourth quarter of 1998.

"We are experiencing unprecedented worldwide demand for pet and considering all the options to meet this market need as quickly as possible," says Holliman.

In the UK, Eastman can be contacted on 0442 241171.

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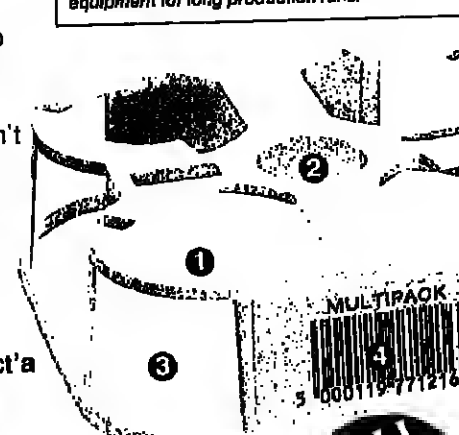
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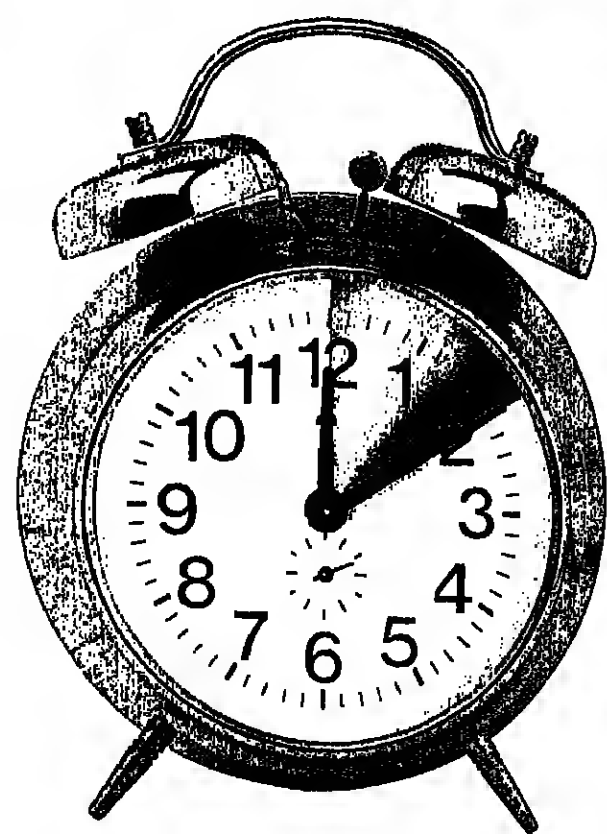
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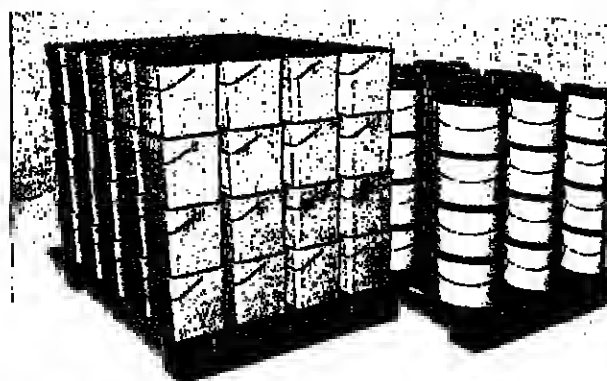
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60

PLASTICS



Thurgar Bollé's range of square plastic containers: a better fit

Square containers fit 80 on a pallet

Four colour wraparound print, tamper evidence and better pallet use are among the advantages of Thurgar Bollé's range of square plastic containers.

Available in 2.5, 5 and 10 litre sizes, the containers will fit, in the largest size, 80 on a pallet as compared to 52 round containers of the same volume. A high nesting density, reduced warehousing and transport costs and better use of shelf space all result, says the company.

Moulded in food-grade copolymer pp, the containers have an antistatic additive and have been tested for compliance with European Directive standards for contact with food.

According to Peter Hinds of RHM's McDougalls Catering Foods, which has been using square containers for dry soups and using shrink sleeves, the in-built tamper evidence would be an advantage. On the SQ range, this means a break-tab at one corner of the container which gives access to the lid edge once broken away.

While ohlong containers have been available in Europe

for some time, Thurgar Bollé believes that the way forward is with squares. It was first into the European market with large general purpose square containers, says the company (Telford Way, Kettering, Northants NN16 8UY - tel: 0536 410111, fax: 310151), with the introduction of the 10 litre version in 1992.

Four colour printing on all four sides can be provided to photographic half-tone quality if required. This 360deg in-house printing is achieved in a single pass. On-mandrel uv drying is said to improve image quality and print speed.

A peelable lid adds to the security of the closure generally. "We've achieved a tremendous amount of lid-fit security," marketing director Matt Hawkins tells *PN*.

The company is planning expansion of the square range over the next few years. Its SQ range of round containers already covers volumes from 2.5 to 25 litres.

For further information K9-146 Call for details 0839 772266

Paint can acquisition

RPC Group plc has acquired the plastics paint can business from Lawson Mardon Packaging, a division of Alusuisse Lonza Holdings Ltd of Zurich for a sum of £1.2 million.

The assets from the Lawson Mardon Plastics' Industrial Containers division in Sutton-in-Ashfield include the Merri-can container and the Florence plastics can which is a tamper evident version manufactured exclusively for ICI Paints. It is the second acquisition in this

field for RPC, as the Fabean and Polycan plastics container business was bought from the Carnaud Metalbox Group at the end of 1991.

This latest purchase will not alter any continuing supply agreements, says RPC, and the move is said to further strengthen its position in the plastics paint can market. RPC has been producing its Paintainer range of containers since the mid 80s at its Oakham plant (0572 723771).

23641, fax: 51803).

The smaller drums meet the needs of suppliers to the catering and institutional markets, while the 25 litre size is certified to UN Group 1 for carriage of dangerous goods. The 12.5 and 20 litre drums have Group II certification.

PD Plastics is currently seeking UN certificates for the later additions to the range.

According to the company, its 25 per cent increase in Euro-tainer sales this year is down to the effective use of space in storage and transit offered by the 'square-round' profile of the containers.

For further information K9-147 Call for details 0839 772266

Liquid drum addition

Responding to chemical industry demand, PD Plastics has extended the scope of its Euro-tainer range with the addition of a 30 litre capacity drum.

There are now six in the range of 'square-round', liquid carrying drums, blow moulded in hmpc in 10, 12.5, 15, 20, 25 and now 30 litre sizes. Secure closures available include bungs and screw caps with anti-pilfer and tamper evident features, says the company (1 Paxton Place, Plimbo, Skelmersdale, Lancs WN8 9QH - tel: 0695

Hot melt system options

German specialist manufacturer of industrial fastening tools Heinrich Buchner has launched an extensive range of hot melt adhesive application equipment onto the European market.

"We are dedicated to giving the end user a variable range of purpose built machines with a selection of interchangeable options, so that the customer can choose a system to meet its particular requirements," says Martin Dennis, business manager in the UK.

Benefits of the HB4000 series include a wide range of units covering bulk tanks ranging from an output of 4 kilos an hour up to 50 kilos. All units can handle either a single or four hose option, suitable for spray, bead or slot nozzle coating applications.

According to Mr Dennis, these features ensure that customers do not have to purchase a higher output system than would be cost effective.

Gear or piston pump units are available if compressed air is a problem and the applicators can include sophisticated microprocessor controls or modular temperature controllers can be fitted.

An additional benefit associated with the HB4000 series is that it can aid manufacturers currently using solvent based adhesives to change to a different method of production, says the company (Unit 19, Campbell Court Business Park, Bramley, Basingstoke, Hants RG26 5EG - tel: 0256 880920, fax: 880285).

Buchner have a full range of 100 per cent solids adhesives, developed with solvent replacement in mind.

For further information K9-613 Call for details 0839 772266

Software for repro

Flexo repro house MCG is now able to offer its customers a more extensive service following the installation of three Artpro origination software packages from Laserpoint (1 Moons Park, Burnt Meadow Road, North Moons Moat, Redditch, Worcs B98 9PA - tel: 0527 63322, fax: 63107).

For further information K9-616 Call for details 0839 772266

European action on legislation

Picon, the organisation which represents 180 companies supplying the printing, publishing,

pulp, paper-making and converting industries, is now the secretariat and Michael Southworth the president, of Eumaprint.



Michael Southworth has been made president of Eumaprint

Eumaprint is the European Committee of Printing and Paper Converting Machinery Manufacturers and its member associations cover Switzerland, Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, Spain, the USA and UK. Its role is to act as a focus for the printing and converting machinery manufacturers in Europe, and as such, it organises the exhibition calendar, monitors European legislation and standards, and allows industry leaders to meet together to discuss industry issues.

The Secretariat of Eumaprint circulates among member associations on a two-year cycle, and the UK has taken over from the German association, the VDMA.

Michael Southworth, managing director of Spooner Industries was elected president from July for a two year term. He is a member of Picon's Council and a previous president of the British Paper Machinery Makers Association.

The most pressing issues before Eumaprint include the European Harmonisation of Safety Regulations for Printing and Paper Converting Machinery and renewing the current agreement on the scheduling of exhibitions beyond the year 2005.

A European Safety Machinery Directive that

comes into force in the UK in January 1995 as the Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 1992 requires manufacturers to ensure their machinery:

- satisfies wide-ranging health and safety requirements
- in some cases has been subjected to type approval by an approved body
- carries CE marking and other information.

At the end of 1992, a draft standard prEN 1010 for printing and paper converting machinery was published, for which negotiations between the European Standards Bodies continues. In particular, the insurance industry in some countries (including the UK), is looking for a breakdown within the standard for different categories of machinery.

Fair competition

It is important that this work is completed as soon as possible in order that there can be fair competition across the European market, says Picon (Queens House, 55-56 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3LJ - tel: 071-831 3303, fax: 071-831 6029).

"The European printing and paper converting machinery makers have been preparing for the introduction of the European Safety Machinery Directive, but it is important that the European Standards are adopted as soon as possible," says Michael Southworth, president of Eumaprint.

For further information K9-614 Call for details 0839 772266



The Man Roland MDP 800 four colour metal decorating press

Multi-colour service for metal decorating

The world's first metal decorating press capable of printing four or six colours in one pass - the MDP 800 - has been launched by Man Roland.

Until now, all metal decorating presses have only been available as one or two colour machines, but the redesigned R800 series press now offers multi-colour aluminium and steel printing.

According to Keith Garfield, sales director of UK agent PPS, "the new Roland press will give specialist tin printers the opportunity to provide their customers with a

high quality full colour product, and with shorter lead times." The MDP 800 prints four or six colour wet-on-wet ink with conventional metal decorating inks. Two colours are printed in one gripper bite, giving precise register. The press has no intermediate drying stations.

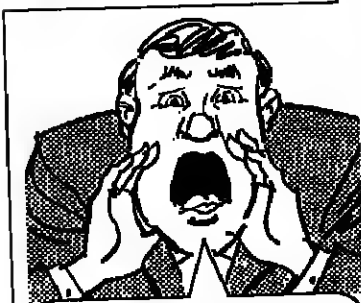
The machine is available in two, four or six colour versions from PPS (Dover House, 141 Morden Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 4XB - tel: 081-648 7090, fax: 081-640 6604).

For further information K9-615 Call for details 0839 772266

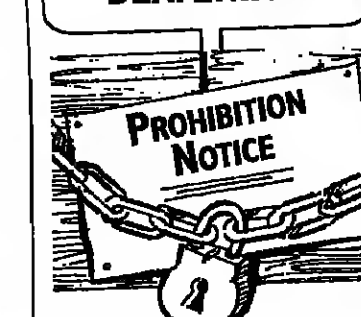
Convertex show

Nearly 100 companies will be represented at Convertex, the UK's only exhibition dedicated to the European Converting Industry, which takes place 28-29 of this month in Hall 10 of the NEC, Birmingham.

Convertex World will be at the show on stand 586, so please feel free to join us. Our second show preview starts on page 64.



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Don't miss this opportunity to see the latest technology from major manufacturers and suppliers of machinery, ancillaries and all materials which contribute to the conversion of paper, board, film and foil.

This year, there is even more for visitors to Convertex, with seminars and conferences dealing with Flexography and Quality Issues.

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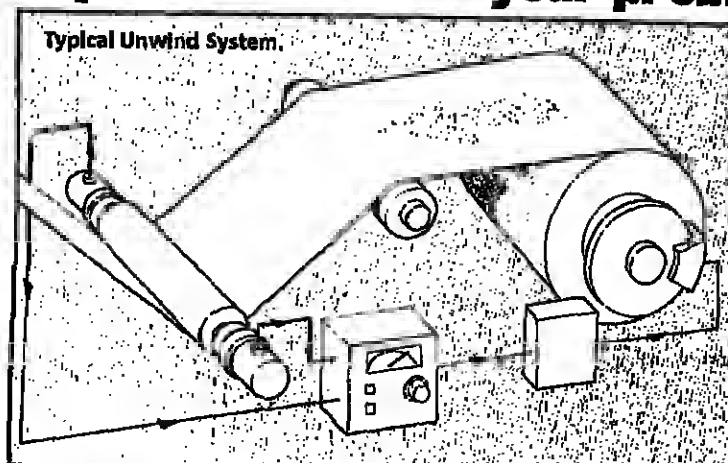
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Exhaustive recovery

An extensive range of equipment and systems from Simplex Turbulo Company Ltd's principal companies, all designed for the converting market, will be demonstrated.

From Air Products GmbH will be Cryo-Solve recovery systems which use the principle of low temperature condensation to recover exhaust process solvent used in the paper, film and foil converting industries as well as efes and waste solvent products from other industrial processes.

Visitors can also discuss the range of high vacuum roll to roll coaters from Galileo Vacuum Tec spa, which can be used on all types of metallised plastics film, paper and paper-board. The metallised films produced on the coaters allow aluminium foil to be replaced

in many applications. From Luraflex GmbH comes the recently patented Luraflex spreader roller, said to be a proven alternative to the conventional hewed roller.

According to the company, the non-driven spreader roller prevents creases and is effective at contact angles from 25 to 180deg, depending on substrate and web tension.

As well as the established expanding shafts and chucks range from Vorwald GmbH, a new safety chuck which has a non-rotating locking mechanism will be demonstrated, says UK agent Simplex-Turbulo (Wharfedale, Hants SP11 7JH - tel: 0264 860186, fax: 860180).

Stand: 229
For further information **K9-601** Call for details 0839 772268

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Visitors to this month's Convertex exhibition will be able to see the latest developments from nearly 100 companies. A series of seminars under the Flexo Forum banner will also run for two of the three day event.

The show takes place in Hall 10 of the NEC, Birmingham, 20-23 of this month. Further information is available from organiser Reed Exhibition Companies (tel: 081-948 9800, fax: 081-948 9989). Convertex World will be on stand 506 so please come and visit us.

On the next four pages, we preview just some of the products to be demonstrated.

Lighter air shafts

A range of air shafts and air chucks which are specifically designed for the paper and converting industries will be shown by Tidland (UK) Ltd.

Included in the range of air shafts will be carbon fibre technology units, designed for strength and lightness, says the company (70/72 Manchester Road, Denton, Manchester M34 3PR - tel: 061-320 7242, fax: 061-320 4513).

Modern flexo on display

The advantages of modern day flexo will be shown on the EFT'A, the UK European Flexographic Technical Association stand, with displays of winners of this year's flexo print awards.

Training courses

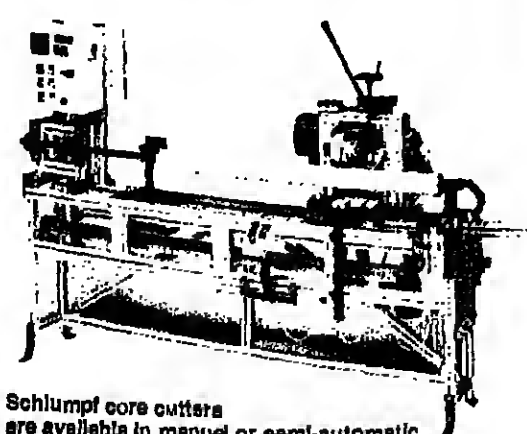
Details of literature and training courses will also be available at the show. The next hands-on course is 'Understanding the flexo process'

which runs from 15-17 November in Cheshire. The next seminar is called 'Consistent print quality - the key to increase profits' and is on 27 October.

Further information is available from EFT'A secretary Tony Bath (7 Limerick Road, Redland, Bristol BS6 7DX - tel/fax: 0272 246665).

Stand: 314
For further information **K9-603** Call for details 0839 772268

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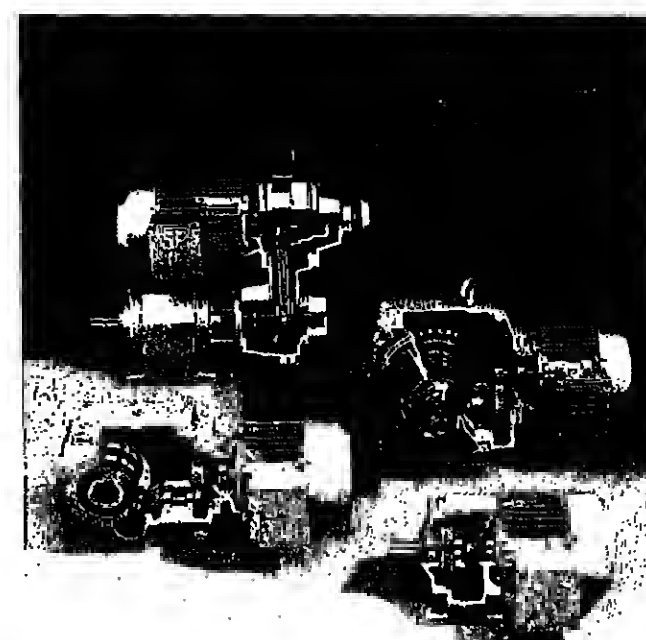
Transmission reliability

Power transmission equipment from SEW Eurodrive Ltd which is said to now meet virtually every customer's specific requirement, will be on show.

The product range encompasses geared motors of Helical, Helical-Worm and Helical-Bevel forms, which are world famous for reliability, says the company (Beckbridge Industrial Estate, Normanton, W Yorks WF6 1QR - tel: 0924 893855, fax: 893702).

This year, SEW Eurodrive has adopted sole responsibility for the sales and servicing of the Samasato Gears Ltd's range of heavy industrial gear units. These units are available in parallel, right angled and planetary drive configurations.

Stand: 310
For further information **K9-604** Call for details 0839 772268



Small selection of SEW Eurodrive Ltd's helical geared motor range

Rotary and flat bed converting range

Edale Ltd is exhibiting at the show to increase awareness of its rotary and flat bed converting equipment for die cutting, punching, laminating, perforating, slitting and sheeting.

According to the company, the advantages of both rotary and flat bed die cutting machines is that they increase productivity. The move from sheet fed machinery to converting in reel form has meant that converting can be combined with printing in just one pass, says the company.

Edale has invested in updating its design and manufacturing facilities and can now offer computer aided design from its in-house R&D division.

Stand: 140
For further information **K9-605** Call for details 0839 772268

Static charge systems will provide big cost savings

A complete range of static eliminators will be shown by Arrowquint Ltd, including dc units and those approved for hazardous areas.

On the stand will be many innovative applications of static charging systems which are said to have provided customers with large cost savings and production benefits.

These applications have come from the increasing potential that static charging systems offer in the areas of holding and controlling paper and film products, says the company (Derilwyn House, Lamb Lane, Pontrilf, Newport, Gwent NP23 1HA - tel: 0633 422292, fax: 430041).

Stand: 513
For further information **K9-607** Call for details 0839 772268

PACKAGING NEWS/SEPTEMBER 1994

EBERGRIP MACHINERY FOR CONVERTERS



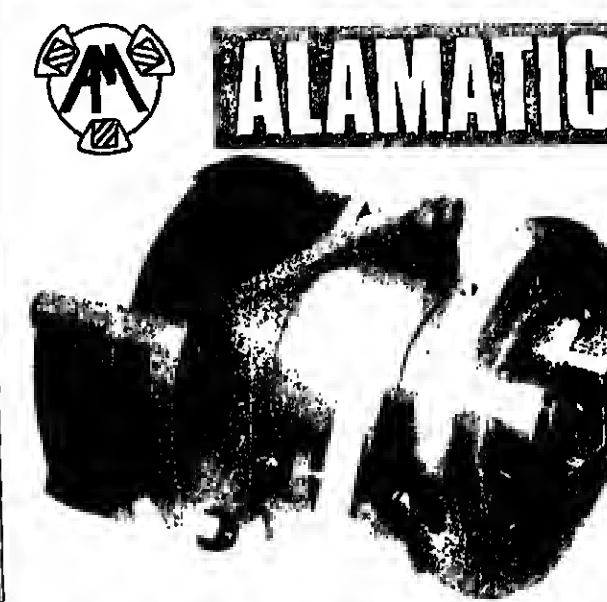
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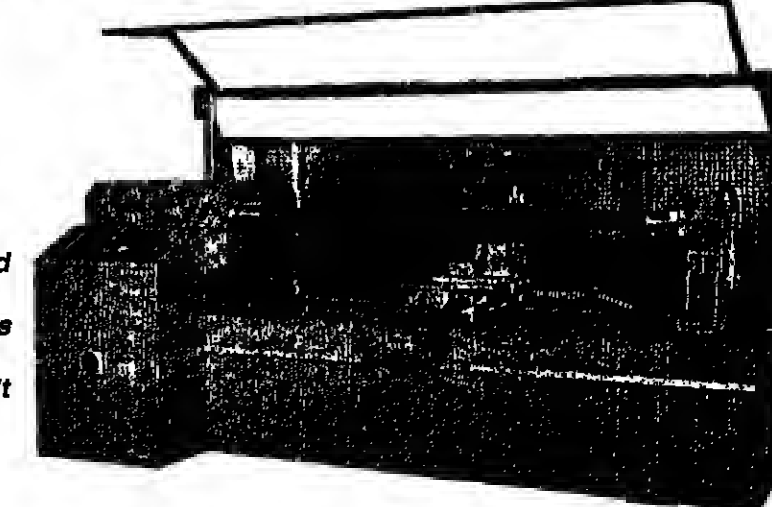
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THE "CUTTING EDGE" OF LATHE CUTTING TECHNOLOGY

One of Europe's most popular makes of lathe slitting and log winding equipment is now a major force in the UK tape converting industry. To find out why contact Eurograv.....



From the semi automatic L1600 model C to the fully automatic L1800/50 (pictured right) F.E.B.A. have been setting the standard for longer than you think with machines that are 'designed to perform and built to last'

F.E.B.A. of Bienne, Milan, design and construct all their machines in house, combining their proven experience with specifications to suit your actual needs.

This internationally recognised firm manufactures a wide range of log winders for 1" through to 3" core id's and lathe slitters up to 800mm in diameter.

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Call on 0839 772268 or enquiry number **K9-690**

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66 CONVERTING

Straight line chucks and balanced bleed valves

Equipment from Alanco-Almatic Ltd to be launched includes straight line chucks, 'balanced' thruster bleed valves and guarding configurations.

The straight line chucks on show are a quarter tone range, designed to suit a 30mm square reel bar, while the 'balanced' thruster bleed valves have been specially developed for reel tension control. The company is at Wilton Street, Denton, Manchester M34 3WD - tel: 061-336-1702, fax: 061-335 0100.

Stand: 40
For further information K9 608 Call for details 0838 772288

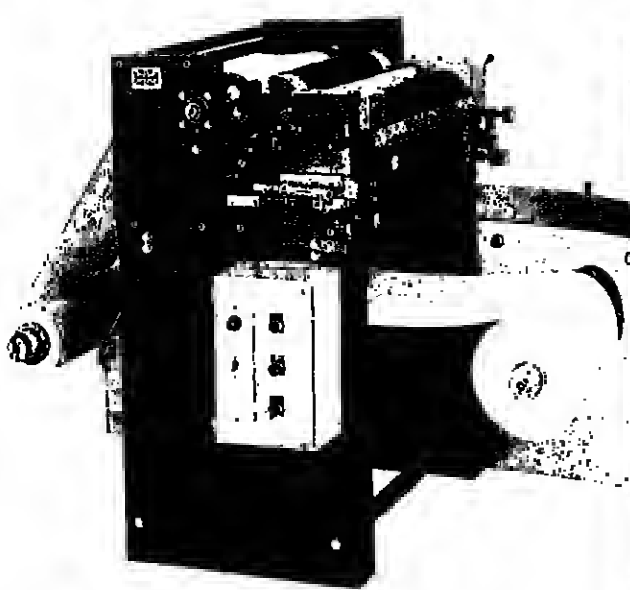
CONVERTEX PREVIEW

Single colour reel to reel

A recent version in the Reflex range of reel to reel flexo printing machines - a single colour 500mm wide model - will be launched by Cooper Printing Equipment Company Ltd.

Machines in the Reflex range are designed to be easily affordable workhorses, and were originally launched at Ilex last year, where they attracted considerable interest from converters of many different types of material, says the company (Heathfield Works, Leyton Road, Harpenden, Herts AL5 2JB - tel: 0582 764431, fax: 768608).

The Reflex range comprises straightforward, robust and highly economic in-line, reel to reel machines in one to four colours, and from 500mm to 1 metre wide. All are suitable for

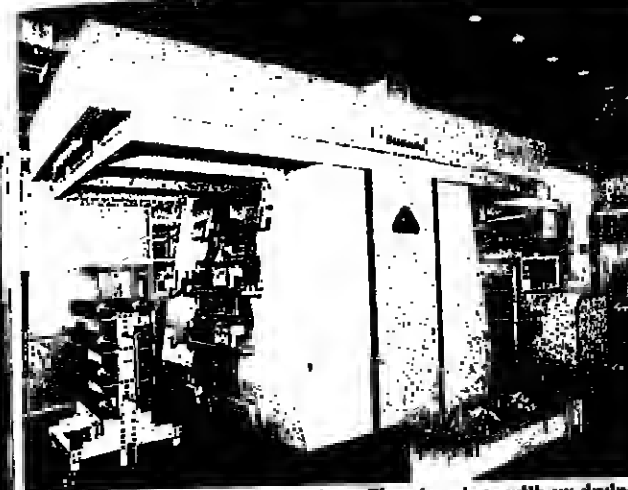


use on many substrates.

Designed in modular form, Reflex units can be configured to suit individual needs with

required, says the company. Stand: 245
For further information K9 609 Call for details 0838 772288

CONVERTEX PREVIEW



The 508 FNC Uvilex flexopress from Flexotecnica, with uv drying

Warm welcome for flexopress

The enthusiastic reception which has been given in Italy to a new CI flexopress with uv drying has prompted manufacturer Flexotecnica to promote the machine at the show on UK agent Engelmann and

Buckham's stand. Development of the Uvilex 508 press follows intensive uv research, says E&B (Buckham House, Lenton Street, Alton, Hants GU34 1HH - tel: 0420 82421, fax: 89193). A

demonstration model was unveiled at Italy's recent GEC 94 show.

The eight colour demonstration version prints at up to 180m/min and has been designed for all plastics films, including ldp, lldpe, opp and pet as well as paper. The print width is 800mm and there is a repeat range of 250-650mm.

Equipped with Flexotecnica's FNC numerical control system, the Uvilex provides pre-register with automatic and sequential mesh of the plate cylinder gears. It also boasts the new Safelink system which ensures safe and easy cylinder changes through a remotely operator-driven robotic system.

Many features, such as the drum coating, have been specially designed to cater for uv, while the level of computerisation and automation has been set to achieve optimum eight colour production.

An edge-guide and Corona treater are incorporated. Stand: 208
For further information K9 612 Call for details 0838 772288

BRIEFS

A RANGE OF DC STATIC elimination products, including anti-static air guns, nozzles and blower will be launched by The Process Control Company (tel: 0288 84877). Title will be added to the X-Slot range of products from the company. Stand: 345

PRIDE OF PLACE on the Delmac Ltd (tel: 0258 814420), stand will be the Delmac drum tipper which is fitted with pneumatically actuated tooling to allow any operator to lift and flip a drum through 180deg. Stand: 330

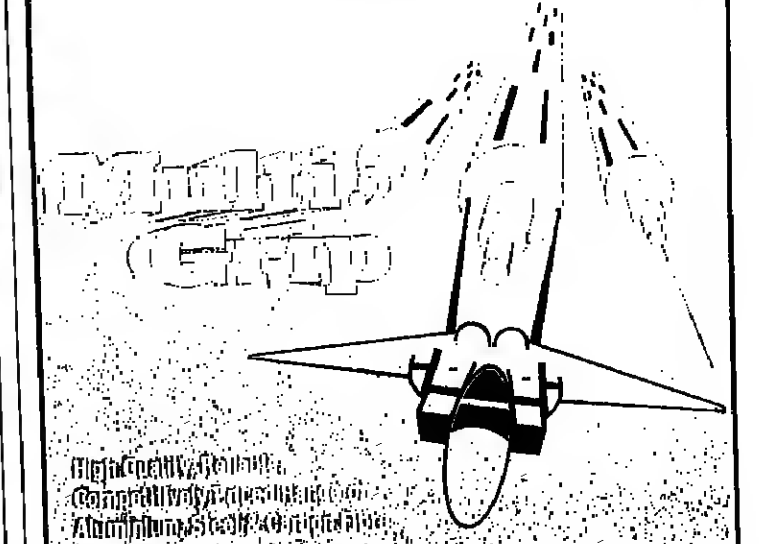
DAROL PLASTIC MACHINERY Ltd (tel: 0767 877320) will introduce the Flexo compact chambered doctor blade system which is a lightweight, stainless steel chamber with internal and seals and doctor blades which can easily be changed without tools. Stand: 414

COBEN CHADWICK (UK) Ltd division, Nim-Cor (tel: 061-520 5520), will show a selection of reel handling products including traditional button, strip and lug configuration type airshafts in steel and aluminium construction, along with its new 80 series airshaft. Stand: 216

COMCO INTERNATIONAL, Energy Sciences, Fletcher & Krecke, HGI, Polytype and Georg Senn will all be represented on the Edlon Machinery Ltd (tel: 071-808 2288) stand. These companies manufacture equipment as varied as flexo presses and paper sack making machines. Stand: 408

TORQUE ACTIVATED core chucks, lightweight airshafts, a non-stop lifting module and an airshaft for narrow web applications will be demonstrated by Orion Machinery Ltd (tel: 0453 890881). Stand: 237

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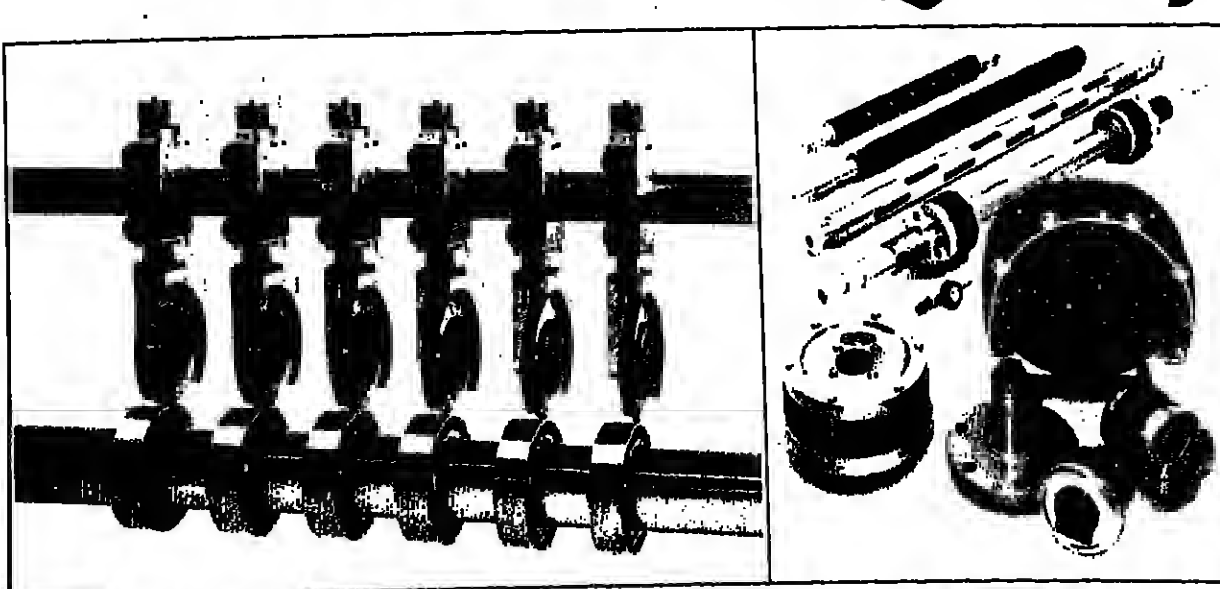
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Tension control firsts

Montalvo Series 3000 tension control equipment will be shown for the first time in the UK at the Convertex show by Arrowhive Equipment Ltd.

The Series 3000 consists of the Model S-3000 digital tension controller, the Montalvo X-3000 tension controller, the Model U-3000 tension controller with ultrasonic sensor and the Model D-3000 dancer roll controller.

complement Montalvo's tension indicators and transducers, brakes and clutches.

"Precise control"

The prime objective of all models in the Series 3000 range is to provide precise tension control on any moving web by regulating either pneumatic chucks, brakes and, depending on model, drive applications.

The S-3000 is the most advanced closed loop tension controller and uses a Damic control algorithm to ensure uniform control response regardless of roll diameter. It may be used in unwind, rewind and intermediate tension applications and provides for fast and very precise tension control. Stand: 272

For further information K9 607 Call for details 0838 772288

"A very full range"

Together with the existing equipment, Montalvo now has the most comprehensive range of tension control related equipment on the market, says Arrowhive (Unit 11 Vandalys Business Park, Busgrove Lane, Stoke Row, Nr Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 5QB - tel: 0491 682044, fax: 682117).

The Series 3000 is said to

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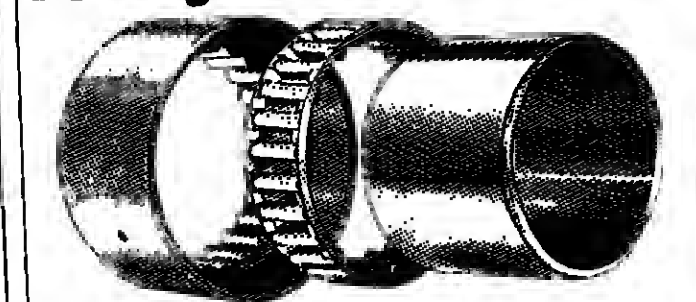
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Clearances and key-slots to suit individual needs. Optional double lip outer ring.

Makes a turn for the better

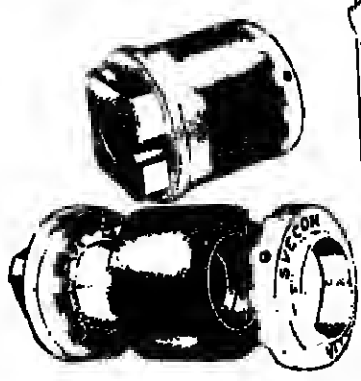
The Svecom BMS Series of reel tilting & turning equipment can handle reels up to a maximum of 600 kilos. It can clamp the reel both horizontally and vertically, and rotate a full 180°, with manual or electro-hydraulic power options. Both types cover the load range 150-600 kilos.

Slitting of 180° from a fixed position allows BMS to service two machines. Or BMS may be rail mounted to service a line of machines.

Expands bank balances too

Save money and save weight with the Svecom 715/PG expanding chuck from Jarshire.

The 715/PG has a rubber expanding body, which is recessed for easy insertion into the core. Expansions of 76mm to 350mm can be specified, according to chuck size. Options include round or square mounting bores, and flanges for winding machines with moveable arms.



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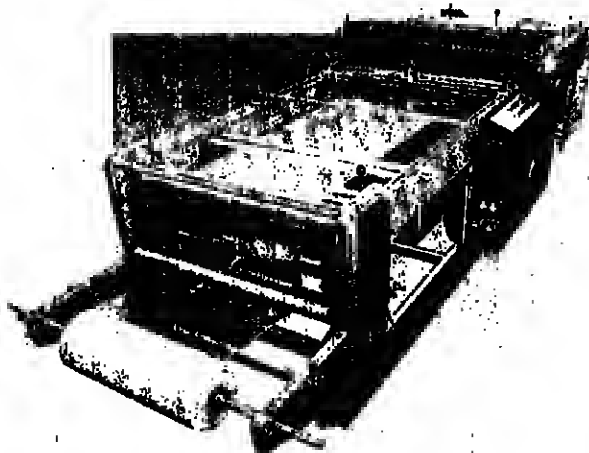
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68 CONVERTING WORLD

BAG MAKING

Press-button control for die cutters

Faster and easier size change are among the main recent developments in bag-making machinery

Press-button control replaces manual adjustment of the die cutters on Italian manufacturer Castaldini's EIS 2000 Evolutione paper bag making machine.

Capable of producing flat or sachet bags from plain or metallised paper and aluminium foil from 30 to 120gsm, the machine offers a speed up to 800 a minute. The size range 240-740mm long and 80-320mm wide with a bottom fold depth of 20mm for flat or gusseted bags.

Compared with earlier Castaldini bag makers, the die-



EIS 2000 Evolutione paper bagmaker: produces flat or sachet bags

cutting unit has been repositioned to provide greater access and easier replacement of the die cutter and size changes, points out UK agent Edlon Machinery (Edlon House, Ashburton Grove, London N7 7AA - tel: 071-609 2266, fax: 071-700 4833). Maximum double die-cut bag length is

530mm, which can be achieved at maximum speed.

In particular, the die cutters are now adjusted by push buttons with single traverse control located on the main panel while parallel traverse control is located on the side of the die-cutting unit itself. These operate servo motors

connected to a mechanical jack, fitted on the die-cutter shaft, to move the die-cutting bars in relation to the counter pressure rubber roller. Manual micro-adjustments for punching, acting directly on the jack, are also possible.

Pneumatic lifting

The EIS 2000 is able to accept reels up to 1000mm wide and in diameters up to 1000mm, or 1200mm on request. A pneumatic lifting system raises the reel from floor level into the unwind station. Web tension is maintained by a pneumatically operated disc brake.

For complete in-line bag production and print, Castaldini's Flexografica E 100 flexopress can be coupled to the bag machine, providing up to four colours.

For further information K9 Call for details 0838 772268

Complete size change via pre-set tools

Complete size change in 15-20 minutes is said to be possible on the Holweg RS-25 paper bag maker as a result of pre-setting the tools off-machine.

Capable of producing an average 625 bags a minute over an 8-hour shift, the machine uses a perforating tool that can be interchanged in similar fashion to the plate cylinder of a flexo press, explains UK agent Linro (Lowesden Works, Lambourn Woodlands, Newbury, Berks RG16 7RU - tel: 0488 72525, fax: 0488 72302).

"The perforating blades are precisely pre-set, so it is not necessary to make further adjustments when starting the machine," the company adds.

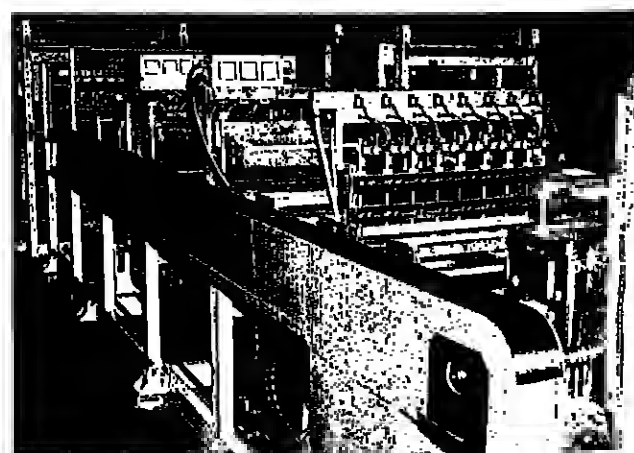
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Pouch-maker for medical devices

Standalone plastics pouch-making machinery has been developed by Coating and Laminating Systems for medical device packaging, and offers a wide choice of bag length, from 50 to 2500mm, catering for devices such as catheter sets that require a 1500mm bag.

Designed as a companion system to a laminating line developed by CLS for pharmaceutical and medical device pouch material, the first of the pouchmakers is now installed within the UK, where it is operating in a clean-room environment. A second has been shipped to the USA for a similar application.

Computer controlled, with a colour graphics display and full data logging facilities, the pouch maker was designed from the outset as an electronic



The first standalone pouchmaker has been installed in the UK

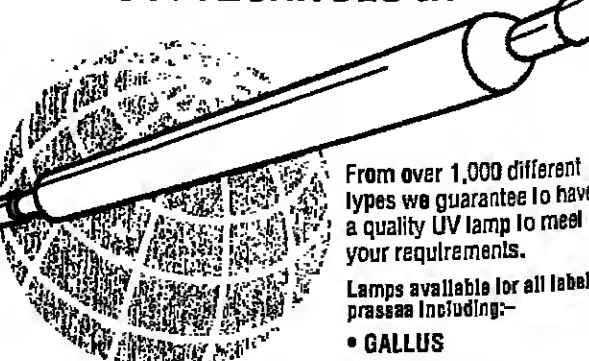
machine, says Phillip Hopley, director at CLS (Bank Works, Tuel Lane, Sowerby Bridge, West Yorks HX6 2EQ - tel: 0422 835692, fax: 0422 831167). This, he adds, provides a machine that is "economically

attractive to commercial bag-makers generally."

A universal cutting station provides a choice of rotary, razor or crush cut slitting.

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CONVERTING WORLD 69

BAG MAKING

Immediate change of winding style

Immediate change from connected perforated bags on a roll to separated, overlapped bags can be achieved on an American built bag winder now available in the UK from Filmflex Machinery, agent for manufacturer CMD Corporation.

This, together with the ability to vary the degree of overlap while the machine is running, contributes to high productivity by avoiding the downtime usually required for manual adjustment says Filmflex (West Street, Worsbrough Dale, Barnsley, South Yorks S70 5PD - tel: 0226 730123, fax: 0226 249595).

The CMD model 4013-RO Rotary Overlap Poly Bag Winder is servo motor driven

and operates coreless or with an optional system to load cores automatically. Speed is up to 183 metres/min and the machine is able to handle overlap bag lengths from 305 to 3175mm. Maximum finished roll size is 254mm diameter, 330mm wide.

"Automatic roll banding"

For in-line finishing an automatic roll banding system can be supplied.

Also available from Filmflex is the Nishibe range of stand-up and three-side seal pouch-making machines, including models designed specifically to handle the high

gauge laminate stand-up pouches now used for paint, lubricating oil and detergent, in sizes from 2 litres upwards.

"High seal integrity"

These thick gauge single and multi-layer laminate bags demand high seal integrity, points out Filmflex, and therefore servo drive and multiple sealing sequences are employed to maintain optimum seal times and therefore seal quality, independent of machine speed.

Ancillary equipment is available to provide pouches with reclosable zippers for bulk packed products such as petfood, reclosable screw thread pouring spouts and punished out handles. Centrally sealed pouches with gusseted sides can also be made.

For further information K9 Call for details 0838 772268

Resealable tape for bags

Resealable adhesive tape manufacturer Sealking has appointed Brattle Adhesive Materials as sole UK distributor.

Developed specifically for production of resealable polyethylene and polypropylene bags, Polypeel tape can be cut by hot wire and has a permanent adhesive on one side and peelable adhesive on the other. This allows resealable bags to be produced in an improved, fume-free working environment, compared with solvent-based systems, says Brattle (M2, Cherrycourt Way, Stanbridge Road, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU7 8UH - tel: 0525 382233, fax: 0525 851324).

Polypeel is an 8mm wide tape mounted offset to left or right on a 15mm release liner.

For further information K9 Call for details 0838 772268

Working with wider webs

A wider version of the Harnden PP Sideweld bagmaking machine has been introduced

by the company and is capable of operating with webs up to 1250mm.

Electronically controlled, the machine is capable of 300 cycles a minute and, for fast size change, incorporates memory for all product

settings. These adjust automatically once the produce reference number has been entered at the keyboard explains Harnden (Manchester Road, Hyde, Cheshire SK14 2BP - tel: 061-368 1817, fax: 061-368 1140).

To provide improved access for maintenance the PP machine's entire conveyor, pick-off and indexing table can be rolled away from the hot knife. This opens up a clear path, providing walk-through access for knife cleaning or other maintenance, says the company.

For further information K9 Call for details 0838 772268

Wicket control of welding

An electronically controlled wicketed bagmaker with separate servo drives for film transport and welding has been introduced by German manufacturer Lemo, allowing welding times, temperature and pressures to be set independent of machine speed.

This, says the company, provides constant welding

quality largely independent of film grade or gauge.

The Internat Varitronic has an output of 350 cycles a minute. In the UK it is marketed by Sullivan Plastics Machinery (PO Box 161, Biddenham, Bedford MK40 4EX - tel: 0234 349888, fax: 0234 350900).

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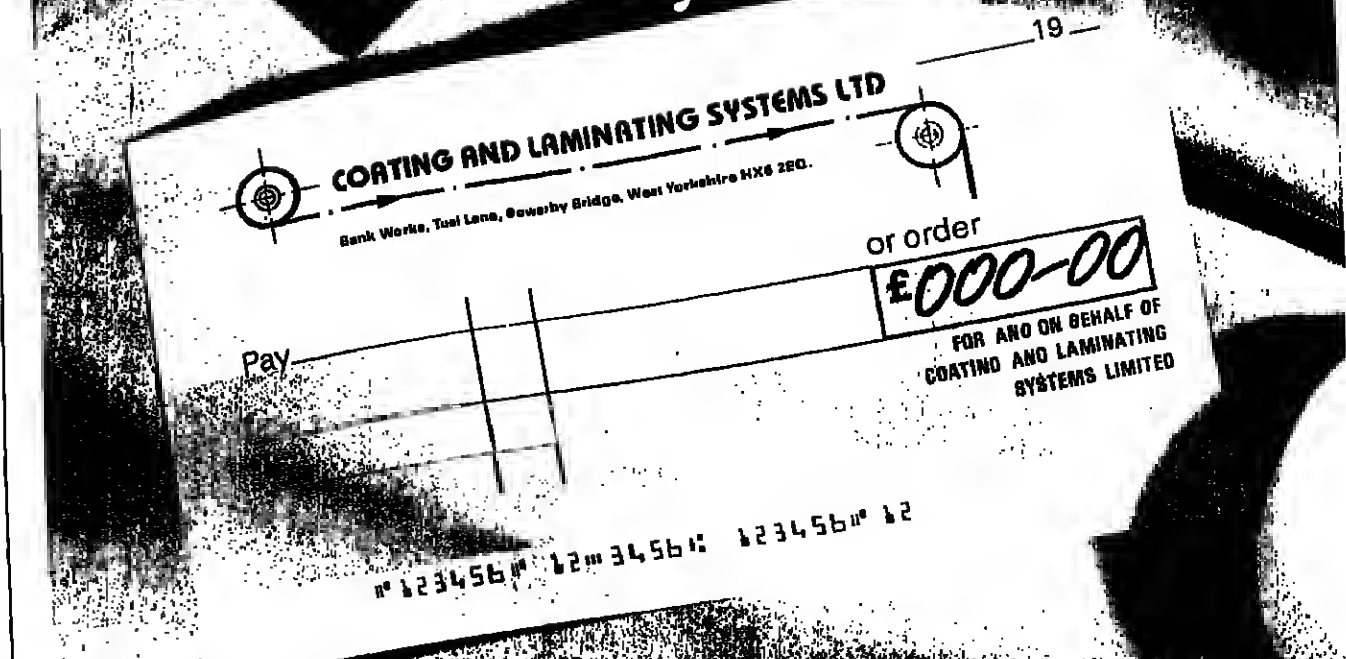
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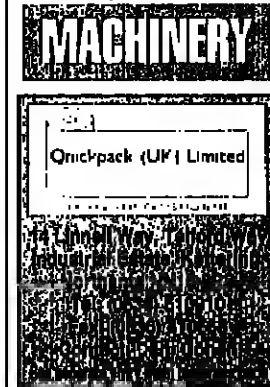
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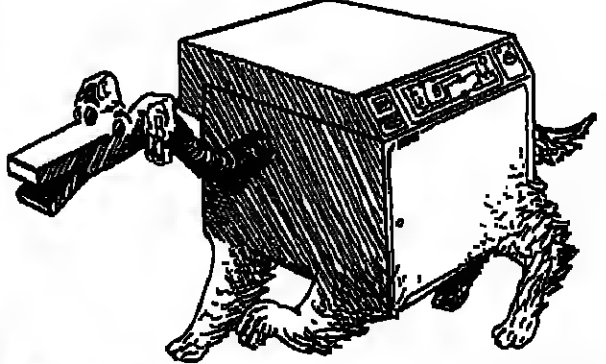
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